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BECHTEL TECHNOLOGY IN CANADA, ORINOCO APPLICATION VIEWED

Caracas EL DIARIO DE CARACAS in Spanish 15 Feb 81 p 10

[Article by Marisol Gonzalez]

[Text] EL DIARIO DE CARACAS went to Canada with Bechtel's vice president in Venezuela to learn about the oil refining plants which that company has installed at Fort McMurray. The intention was to find out about oil projects in that country to thus demonstrate, according to Von Hartz, that "if Bechtel managed to do it in Canada, it can also do it in Venezuela;" specifically, the exploitation of the petroliferous belt of the Orinoco River.

He is convinced of what he is doing. Even more, he is a firm supporter of the transfer of technology which the company has developed worldwide. As an executive of Bechtel--that huge private company which supposedly has close ties with the Reagan administration--Robert Von Hartz, Bechtel's vice president in Venezuela, is also absolutely convinced that his company is the one best prepared to handle coordination in exploiting the prolific belt of the Orinoco River in the area assigned to LAGOVEN.

EL DIARIO DE CARACAS went to Canada with Von Hartz to see the oil exploration installations which Bechtel has installed there at Fort McMurray in the province of Alberta.

The purpose of the trip? Von Hartz explained it clearly: "To learn the whole truth about Bechtel. To visit the oil installations in Canada, just so that we could become convinced that if it was possible there, it is also possible in Venezuela."

We talked during our return leg of the exhausting trip, during which barely 2 hours were spent at each plant, Syncrude and Suncord, but which were enough for grasping what this huge company, in more than a century, has been able to achieve with regard to exploiting oil reserves.

25,000 Feet Up

At an altitude of 25,000 feet and after 10 hours of flying, perhaps it was not the ideal time for conversation, but Von Hartz, cordial and using almost perfect

Spanish except for the times when a "so" came out--instead of "antonces"--was always ready to talk, especially about Bechtel: he has devoted more than 2 decades of his life to this company.

Bechtel's Importance

"Bechtel," Von Hartz said, "is synonymous with development." It has carried out projects in more than 100 countries, including 188 petrochemical, chemical and resin plants, 62 seaports, 44 food, pharmaceutical and industrial chemical facilities, 110 hotels and commercial buildings, more than 75 water treatment plants and more than 2,000 light industry installations.

Perhaps because of all that, Von Hartz talked only about Bechtel's projects worldwide: the giant's achievements in Spain, where it built four nuclear powerplants; the \$9-billion industrialization program in Saudi Arabia; the oil refineries in Canada; and thus how "simple" the job of coordinating exploitation of the Orinoco's petroliferous belt would be in Venezuela. After all, "if it could be done in Canada, I don't see why it can't be done in Venezuela"

A Boy Who Can Learn To Drive

And thus because Von Hartz views the situation with absolute assurance and obvious conviction, when we talked about the risks of exploiting the Orinoco's oil reserves and about the divergent opinions as to whether the country should take on that gigantic megaproject, whose cost is estimated at \$34 billion and which could amount to as much as \$90 billion, to explain his conviction about the possibility of transferring technology to our country, he compared it to the boy whose father taught him to drive a car. What a comparison!

"Someone has to be the teacher," Von Hartz said. "Bechtel would direct and advise on the project, would transfer the knowledge to the Venezuelans in the same way as a father who teaches his son to drive a car. How does the boy learn to drive? By taking the wheel himself, under his father's instructions. That is how it would be in Venezuela; we would advise the Venezuelans but they are capable of learning to drive the car."

[Question] In the event that Bechtel's bid is selected, where would Venezuelan technicians be trained?

[Answer] I think that they would work in Bechtel's offices in Los Angeles, Houston and Washington, D.C. They could be trained there.

[Question] Let's suppose that Bechtel is put in charge of the project. Once it is completed, is the process of transferring technology adequate for Venezuelan experts to be able to continue without the "father's instructions"?

[Answer] Yes, totally. That is my company's philosophy. Spain's case is one example. There, 158 Bechtel experts were responsible, along with 2,500 Spanish engineers, for the installation of four nuclear powerplants. In the last project, Bechtel was under the Spanish; we became subcontractors."

It is obvious that under the company's policy, technology is not "leased" but "sold." At least that is what the executive tried to make clear at all times; that when Venezuelan experts learn that technology, they can transfer it in turn.

Despite the executive's rhetoric concerning his company's projects, however, there were some topics which apparently annoyed him, and with the firmness of a general (he was one of Gen Dwight Eisenhower's 11 trusted officers during World War II), he suggested that we change the subject. Ignoring him, I continued.

[Question] What would Bechtel's opinion be if the decision on a project of this nature were to be made on the basis of a national consensus, as is currently being discussed?

[Answer] We do not wish to meddle in Venezuelan politics. We are professionals and according to what we have heard, development of the Orinoco's oil reserves is extremely important for the country, and this is the time to carry out the project, so that Venezuela can maintain its position as a world oil exporter.

[Question] What is your opinion of the "Kennedy Report," which recommends, among other things, searching for oil in other countries, specifically in Venezuela, although it acknowledges that for obvious reasons it is not advisable for our country to exploit the Orinoco's reserves?

[Answer] I have no opinion about that.

He also refrained from talking about relations between Bechtel's president in San Francisco, George Schultz, and the U.S. Government. Schultz was proposed as a candidate for secretary of state in the Reagan administration, but preferred to continue running the company. Finally, Von Hartz stressed that he hopes for the day when Venezuela and Bechtel could transfer technology to the "Andean countries." Immediately afterwards, he again relaxed in his first-class seat on the Viasa flight between New York and Caracas.

The Projects of a Giant

Six companies were selected, in the case of areas assigned to LAGOVEN, for exploiting the petroliferous belt of the Orinoco River. Bechtel is one of the American firms, along with Lummus, Fluor and Parsons, which withdrew from the bidding. There are also Technip of France and David McGee of Great Britain.

Bechtel's projects in Venezuela date back to 1940, when it was commissioned to build oil pipelines in Puerto la Cruz for the Mene Grande company at that time. Bechtel has since been involved in 17 projects throughout the country, from expansion of the Guri project to the design of the civil works system and construction of the 26-km Caracas subway at a cost of 2 billion bolivars.

Bechtel's vice president in Venezuela, Robert Von Hartz, has been in the country about 8 months. From its Caracas offices, Bechtel plans to handle other projects in Latin America. For the time being, what interests this company most is coordinating the development of the Orinoco River oil reserves. There are no other

projects in sight. The importance which directing the development of those reserves represents for Bechtel is obvious, especially when there has been talk of a cost of 34 billion bolivars, which could perhaps even double. Von Hartz did not reveal how much his company's earnings would be if selected by LAGOVEN.

Bechtel has been involved in highway and housing projects, directing crews in the Cerro Bolivar development project, designing components and directing the construction and assistance of a Procter and Gamble of Venezuela synthetic detergents plant in Barquisimeto; it also participated in building the El Palito refinery and the Uribante Caparo electric powerplant, directing and assisting the project, just to name a few of the operations of the giant Bechtel company in Venezuela. It remains to be seen whether coordination of development of the Orinoco River oil reserves will be added to the long list of Bechtel's projects worldwide.

11915

CSO: 3010

ECUADOREAN-PERUVIAN PEACE TO STRENGTHEN ANDEAN PACT

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 27 Feb 81 pp 1-2

[Text] The start of a solution to the Ecuadorean-Peruvian border conflict has begun to close the gap that had appeared within the Andean Pact nations; the pact had been endangered by the conflict between the two member countries of this subregional group.

Observers of the integrationist process say that once peace is restored in the area, greater efforts will be made to improve and strengthen the mechanisms of the pact.

The process faced its greatest crisis during recent days because of incidents between Ecuador and Peru, where the headquarters of this subregional organization is located. In addition, there has also been the abstentionist policy of Bolivia, which left its seat vacant because of the rejection by the member countries of the military regime of Garcia Meza.

Both the steps that Ecuador and Peru took yesterday to restore peace, and Peru's recognition of the Bolivian Government can open the way to a continued advance along the difficult course of integration, observers report.

Furthermore, it is believed in diplomatic circles that the step taken yesterday by the Garcia Meza regime, creating room in the new cabinet for the civilian sector, and the announcement of a democratic overture, will make future recognitions possible, both within and beyond the subregional level.

During the incidents of the past few days the joint border between Ecuador and Peru has remained closed, making trade between the two countries impossible; under normal conditions, this trade is among the most intense in the area.

This greatly disturbed both the government and the business community in Peru, which yesterday accused Ecuador of "economic aggression," accusing Ecuador of having "unilaterally decided to suspend its imports coming from its southern neighbor."

A few hours after this criticism, the Ecuadorean Government hastened to deny this charge. The undersecretary for integration, Milton Cevallos, emphatically denied any intention on the part of the Ecuadorean Government to unilaterally suspend purchases from Peru within the framework of the Andean Pact.

What is true, said Cevallos, is that trade is physically impossible, since the borders are closed. There is virtually a bilateral suspension in trade between both countries due to the conflict.

Observers report that once the incidents have been resolved and peace is restored, the borders will again be opened and that relations on all levels, including trade, which is the most important aspect, will return to normal.

Trade between Peru and Ecuador is the most intense and important in the subregion, not only because it includes trade between the two countries, but also because Ecuador is the natural link between the countries to the south, Bolivia, and Peru, with those to the north, Colombia and Venezuela. Goods and merchandise destined for the four member countries of the pact go through Ecuador.

Even when the trade balance with Peru is unfavorable to Ecuador, Ecuador feels that on the whole, subregional integration provides a favorable balance for its development.

In 1979 Peru's exports to Ecuador totaled \$120 million; in return it imported from Ecuador only about \$10 million. This clearly unfavorable balance for Ecuador was repeated last year. It is hoped that during 1981 the integration mechanisms may be adjusted so that a more equitable balance may be achieved between the two nations.

7679
CSO: 3010

ECUADOR DENIES AGREEMENT WITH CUBA FOR EMBASSY EVICTION

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 24 Feb 81 pp 1-2

[Text] Yesterday the Foreign Ministry issued a communique stating that there has never been any agreement with the Cuban Government covering evictions from the Ecuadorean embassy in Havana. The Foreign Ministry also stressed that it maintains and will continue to maintain its position of defense and respect for life and for essential human rights.

The text of the communique follows.

In order that public opinion may be kept properly informed about the events which occurred at the embassy of Ecuador in Cuba, the Ministry of Foreign Relations, after hearing the reports from the envoys who went to Cuba to obtain the release of the Ecuadorean diplomats, repeats that it maintains and will maintain its policy of defense and respect for life and for essential human rights.

The Ministry of Foreign Relations once again states that at no time did any authority of the government of Ecuador express any agreement for its embassy in Havana to be taken over by force.

Based on the report of the envoys, it is the opinion of the Foreign Ministry that the constant concern of the envoys, after the release of the diplomats, was the respect for life and preservation of the health and physical integrity of the Cubans who occupied the mission.

The foreign minister said that he personally on a number of occasions expressed this concern to the ambassador of Cuba in Quito. He also said that when the ambassador gave the government of Ecuador the news of the release of the Ecuadorean diplomats, the minister of foreign relations of Ecuador stated and placed much emphasis on his statement that the Cubans occupying the mission were still under the protection of the government of Ecuador and that no military action or operation could be justified.

The government of Ecuador concludes that there is complete harmony between its position and the actions taken by the Ecuadorean envoys who went to Cuba, actions demonstrating the necessary and immediate concern for the preservation of the health of the Cubans occupying the mission, said the foreign minister.

He pointed out that the reply given by the president of the republic to various persons and organizations abroad who manifested their concern about this matter merited special attention. He reported that the president said that the government of Ecuador will make great efforts, as it has always done, to preserve the traditional principles of respect for human rights, and he reiterated his conviction that every human life must be properly protected.

These principles and the enumeration of these events, confirmed by the report of the envoys, reassert the Ecuadorean determination to protect the life and liberty of those who were under the protection of their diplomatic mission, he concluded.

Havana, 23 :-- Cuba has rejected the terms of a protest note presented by Ecuador and it has announced that in the future, in the event of any occupation of embassies, it will take unilateral action to "reestablish the violated legality." This will be done in cases in which "the diplomatic representatives of any country lose control of their diplomatic headquarters in Cuba," as happened in the Ecuadorean embassy where an armed group penetrated the embassy and held the ambassador and embassy staff as hostages for a week.

The text of the Cuban response which was released tonight reports on the negotiations conducted by the ad-hoc Ecuadorean mission with the Cuban authorities and reveals that the Ecuadorean representatives were "convinced that an agreement should be reached with the Cuban government on the most immediate forms of nonviolent intervention in order to bring an end to a situation that was becoming alarming."

"It is the responsibility of the Ecuadorean delegation to explain to its government" the situation which led it to such a conviction, states the Cuban note of reply.

It adds that the only commitment made was that the death penalty would not be applied to the captors if they surrendered voluntarily within 24 hours after the release of the hostages. This condition was not met, but still Cuba will keep its part of the agreement.

"As for the rights of the persons held, for which the government of Ecuador believes itself entitled to hold Cuba responsible, the government of Cuba hereby points out that the government of Ecuador has no authority to do so," states the reply.

If in this case the Cuban Government did agree to "subordinate its actions to the express consent of the government of Ecuador," it did so for "considerations arising from reciprocal relations," and not for reasons related to international law.

"In cases such as this, in which the diplomatic representatives of any country lose control of their diplomatic headquarters in Cuba, the Cuban Government will consider it has the right, which right it will exercise above other considerations, to reestablish the violated legality, to protect the life and safety of the diplomats, and to return to the appropriate government the full enjoyment of its jurisdiction over the occupied mission," states the response in conclusion.

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BRIEFS

NICARAGUAN-MEXICAN BUSINESSMEN MEET--This morning a Nicaraguan businessman asked the visiting Mexican businessmen if Mexico could render assistance, at least in small proportion, in a small part, to Nicaraguan private enterprise. The Mexican delegate replied that Mexico does not think of small proportions, but of extensive participation for the Nicaraguan private enterprise. He added that they, as representatives of Mexican private enterprise, never thought of limited participation for their Nicaragua colleagues. He said that credits must be opened within the framework of exchange of the countries mentioned--Mexico and Nicaragua. He stated that it was just and logical that Nicaraguan private enterprise take part in this exchange and that the Mexican Embassy would be apprised of the request by the Nicaraguan private enterprise. To this the president of the Chamber of Commerce of Nicaragua said at the close of the meeting between the businessmen: I hope that what the Mexicans promise us will become a reality. [Text] [PA250303 Managua Radio Mundial in Spanish 1900 GMT 24 Mar 81]

CSO: 3010

NEW EDUCATION MINISTER VOWS TO CONTINUE PRESENT POLICY

Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 4 Mar 81 p 31

[Text] The future minister of culture and education, Carlos Burundarena, gave notice that, during his administration, the system of admission quotas for the universities would be restudied to gear them "to the size and development of the country."

He also explained that the quotas or empty slots that exist relate to a "physical" situation in the universities, but that, "if necessary, we shall speak with the president of the nation to explore the possibilities of increasing that physical capacity over the medium and long term," so that "more people can attend the universities."

On the same subject (and in response to a question from the press), the future minister predicted that "where more emphasis must be placed is in the third level, non-university courses."

Burundarena also discussed the university fees, student participation and the improvement and rating of instructors within the context of the national educational system.

Burundarena gave a reminder that the criteria to be taken into account in implementing the fees "are the same ones upheld by the present minister, Dr Llerena Amadeo, and are, moreover, contained in the university law that is in force."

In this connection, he remarked: "The principle of solidarity that has already been set forth publicly will be implemented, so that individuals who cannot attend school because of money problems will be able to attend the universities;" adding that this "means that the policy announced by Dr Llerena Amadeo will not be changed by me during the next administration."

In commenting on the vacant slots that the Ministry of Education, in coordination with the university deans, establishes annually for the admission of superior students Burundarena declared: "The matter will be restudied; in other words, the criteria whereby those quotas have been assigned must be restudied."

In this part of the dialog, he agreed that "where more emphasis must be placed is in the third level, nonuniversity courses." Then Burundarena was asked whether "the absence of politics in the universities could be taken advantage of or used by the leftist sectors."

He replied: "The major objective of the first phase of the military government in the universities was the battle against subversion and, in my opinion, the results demonstrated that the intention was not mistaken."

He added: "The next government of General Viola will embody another phase in this process, wherein procedures will be implemented which will bring about student participation; because, as the president, General Videla, has explained, we need to have students who are not mere spectators, but also leaders of the process in which it is incumbent on them to act. I also think that this will be a decision that will be made by the national government."

The future education minister also remarked that "the improvement of instruction will continue to take place, because it is essential that this be done," and that "the rating of instructors should not be interpreted merely in economic terms, but rather in terms of equity."

2909
CSO: 3010

TEACHERS' CONFEDERATION ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON EDUCATIONAL LAW**Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 4 Mar 81 p 30**

[Text] The Teachers' Confederation issued a communique, signed by its president, Hector A. Robles, and its secretary general, Maria Sanchez Navarro, in response to the draft guidelines for the Federal Law on Education. It is emphasized therein that:

The Teachers' Confederation, despite the fact that it voiced its opinion in April of last year, deems it fitting (in response to the request of the Ministry of Culture and Education) to express its views on the draft guidelines for the Federal Law on Education, but first stressing:

1. That it considers the passage of a Federal Law on Education under the present institutional circumstances unfeasible;
2. That it does not consider the system of consultations that has been implemented to give the community a share in the preparation of the law to be suitable;
3. That the guidelines published by the Ministry of Culture and Education establish the erroneous principle of the subsidiary status of state education with respect to private education, and show an excessive backing for the latter type of education.
4. That, despite its express request, and being a legally recognized entity in complete institutional operation, the Teachers' Confederation was not invited to participate in the debate on the Law on Education, nor was it received by the minister of culture and education, and its request in that regard was not answered.

With these preliminary explanations made, the Teachers' Confederation reiterates its judgment regarding the educational legislation, namely:

- a. The state will maintain the obligation and the inalienable right (according to our Constitution: Article 67, Section 16) to legislate and carry out an educational policy based on the national and democratic interests of the Argentine people, insuring the latter's increased participation in the governing of the public schools through the sectors directly associated with education.

- b. The Argentine educational system should be decentralized, with collegiate government assured on all levels of education.
- c. The training of instructors for all grades must be an exclusive, nontransferrable function of the democratic state.
- d. The public schools must be free of charge, secular, coeducational, with assistance and compulsory up to the basic cycle.
- e. The private schools must be in the service of the nation's educational ideals. They must be inspected from the standpoint of their establishment, their facilities, their activities, their method of promotion and the fulfillment of their plans and programs.

The Teachers' Confederation also maintains that the legal regulations that exist with regard to educational policy, which constitute an organic unit, should be applied immediately.

2909
CSO: 3010

STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN POLITICAL PROCESS TO BE CONSIDERED

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 Mar 81 p 7

[Text] The future minister of education, engineer Burundarena, has not delayed in announcing some of the criteria whereby it is proposed to guide the educational policy of the government to be headed by Lt General Viola. In recent statements, he made it clear, first of all, that he does not plan to undo the accomplishments of the present head of the ministry, Dr Llerena Amadeo; but, on the other hand, he expressed notions that the latter would be unlikely to endorse. To be sure, engineer Burundarena has not yet taken office, and after he does so it will remain to be seen how many real deeds separate what appear to be his expectations from what his actions will have to be.

Since, at the moment, we can judge only the former, it may be said, from that standpoint, that the process of which the next head of this ministry is highly representative will move from the phase of reaction to that of action. In this respect, from a procedural standpoint, we think that the former consisted of both the final culmination of the antiguerrilla operations initiated under the governments of Peron and his successors and the position assumed in March 1976 toward the erroneous lack of government to which this country had succumbed, wherein they reached the point of holding hair-splitting debates on the meaning of the term "acephalism," and bandying about any number of names of individuals as possible "constitutional" replacements for Maria Estela Martinez de Peron.

A Reverse in the Trend?

According to the latest statements by engineer Burundarena, the process, viewed from his standpoint, may have, without negating itself, embarked on a phase of positive action of its own. A few days ago, he remarked: "The policy announced by Dr Llerena Amadeo will not be changed by me during the next administration." Consequently, he did not express a view on the imminent Law on Education which the government of Lt General Videla may still issue any day; even though voices from highly variegated sectors have been raised in the defense of a genuine consultation of the people in this area. If the new minister were to inherit that legal instrument, he would have no alternative other than to implement it. But will he inherit it? This question will remain until Viola is sworn in. If the Law on Education is meant to be an accomplishment of his government, something that no one knows for certain, perhaps it will assume the features of a constructive action, and not of a mere

reaction against the disorder ascribed chiefly to students who, to a large extent, were only reflecting the national chaos, to which the military contributed considerably.

Since a beginning of order seems to be prevailing now, it was precisely in that vein that engineer Burundarena stated, interpreting express provisions of the University Law in somewhat his own manner, that, "There will be student participation because, as President Videla has explained, we need to have students who are not mere spectators, but also leaders of the process in which it is incumbent on them to act." A magnanimous statement, although flexible in its terms. What will remain of it when engineer Burundarena takes in his own hands the reins of education? Time will tell whether the next minister will succeed in making this commitment compatible with Articles 36 and 37 of Law 22,207, which establish a few rather limited and passive objectives for that participation.

Education and Development

The problem of the youth is a considerable worry to those in charge of the process, concerning which varied and significant evidence could be cited, and because that issue is concentrated to a large extent on the prospects that are offered to the youth, it is a well-known fact that, as Burundarena put it, "the expansion of the educational system must run concurrently with the expansion and development of the country." The future minister, who made this remark in commenting on the quotas set for admission to the universities, admitted that this matter would be examined again, from the standpoint that the criteria with which they were stipulated will be studied once more. It has been learned that this year, of the 39,466 candidates for admission to the National University of Buenos Aires, only 9,830 will be accepted, leaving the 29,636 who are excluded in a state of uncertainty. Apparently, in the future engineer Burundarena intends to divert a considerable number of that large volume toward third level, nonuniversity courses.

Education and Economy

While still dean of the National Technological University, Burundarena never concealed his interest in that area of [words missing from text], which is probably connected, in his view, with the plan to create short third level courses. There is also undoubtedly a connection with the plans to improve agricultural and livestock technical education, on which Dr Llerena Amadeo recently gave details, and which are associated with the secondary level. Both plans and also, of course, all those related to the improvement of elementary and university education, are under the Damocles sword of the budget; and some wonder what Burundarena will do to prevent the thread from being cut. The budget earmarked for the universities in 1981 would appear to show a reduction of 25 percent in comparison with last year, a decline which, of course, could perhaps be offset by the fees, in which case the latter would not apply to grants and loans for study. There is no doubt that a university institution, forced to choose between remaining without light, gas and telephone, and abolishing the "equality of opportunity" so often proclaimed as the sole purpose of the fee charging, would opt for the latter. In fact, there would not be much purpose in having equality prevail in a building without communications and submerged in darkness and cold.

Somewhat the same thing holds true for the National Technical Education Council (CONET), in which engineer Burundarena was an auditor, speaking out in the defense of that task more than once. Up until October 1980, the tax for technical education allowed over 60 technical schools, attended by over 40,000 students, to operate in the country. More than 5 months have elapsed since the repeal of that tax in tribute to the general institution of the VAT, without any regulation of the tax credit system that would make it possible to replace that contribution.

A ban on the schools circulating books that poison the youth with totalitarian doctrines will be immediately and exclusively in the hands of engineer Burundarena. As for the budget, let us hope that he will not have to request an unusual number of meetings with Dr Lorenzo Sigaut.

2909

CSO: 3010

PLAN DEVISED TO PROMOTE LOCAL ENTERPRISES

La Paz HOY in Spanish 23 Feb 81 p 3

[Text] Based on the premise that personal economic independence must be the aspiration of every human being, an institution has been founded which will promote the organization and implementation of the consortium of people's enterprises on the basis of the utilization of previously prepared, feasible technical and economic projects.

According to explanations provided by the person chiefly responsible for it, Abel Orihuela del Castillo, an investigation of the impediments that interfere with the country's normal development and the most appropriate solutions in overcoming the backwardness and poverty of the nation has begun.

These investigations have resulted in a study entitled "The Economic and Social Development of Bolivia in the Hands of the People's Sectors" by means of which a series of feasible technical and economic projects have been worked out for a whole program which now constitutes a pilot plan referred to as "Irupana," since this region of the country constitutes a microcosm of all the different climates to be found in the country.

In connection with this, the Irupana Consortium of People's Enterprises has been formed, an organization which within 5 years plans to found hundreds of enterprises engaged in livestock production, industrial farming and services as well as in supply, storage and marketing and the social development of the region.

At the livestock enterprises, they intend to raise pigs, sheep, goats, milk cows and beef cattle, poultry, geese, horses and bees.

The farm enterprises include the growing of corn, alfalfa, bananas, cassava, potatoes, garden produce, grains, oil-producing crops, coffee, cacao, sugar cane, citrus fruits, seed-bearing fruits with cores, vegetables for industrial use and spices, as well as flowers and aromatic plants.

In the field of industry they will engage in the installation of plants for the dehydration of vegetables and fruits, mills, animal fodder plants, slaughterhouses, meat-packing plants, canneries, plants for the processing or manufacture of noodles, beverages, [cooking] oil, plywood and pressboard, furniture, building materials, packing cases and containers, yarn and ready-made clothes, tanneries, plants for the manufacture of leather articles, cosmetics and others.

Financing

The system of financing planned for these enterprises will be based on contributions of money and manpower by the people of the city and rural area that wish to form an association, who may include professionals, employees, craftsmen, workers and farmers who want to run their own businesses and achieve economic independence.

The Fund for the Financing of the Iruvana Consortium of People's Enterprises will be created with these contributions.

According to the project head's explanations of the way in which contributions would be made, once enrolled, a member deposits his contributions in the State Bank savings account in payment of his initial share of 1,000 pesos as a single deposit or in installments which will total this amount by the middle of this year, since the time-table for implementing operations begins in July, although the deadline can be advanced if contributing members make their deposits before the anticipated date.

By mutual agreement between the promoting association, referred to for that purpose as "Promo-Success," and the State Bank, contributions deposited by members cannot be used by anyone without the presence of the legal representative of the consortium's first scheduled enterprise.

Subsequent contributions will be used only to acquire shares and will fluctuate between 50 and 500 pesos in value.

The offices of this organization to which interested parties may turn for more information are located on Calle Murillo at the corner of Cochabamba 580.

11,466
CSO: 3010

INE RELEASES COMPARATIVE COST OF LIVING FIGURES

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 23 Feb 81 p 3

[Text] Highest indices recorded in 1974 (62.84 percent) and 1980 (47.24 percent). Average increase in cost of living during the 10-year period was 41.91 percent a year.

Fluctuation in the general consumer price index or cost of living index between 1970 and 1980 reached a high of 461.01 percent, according to a National Statistics Institute (INE) report which provides figures on the four groups that comprise the index: food, housing, wearing apparel or clothing and miscellany.

According to the report, in 1980 the general consumer price index showed an increase of 47.24 percent in comparison with 1979. This increase was the second highest in the decade that began in 1970, since the highest was recorded in 1974 with a fluctuation of 62.84 percent.

During the 5-year period from 1971 to 1975, an average fluctuation of 146.24 percent was recorded, or an average annual increase of 29.25 percent. According to the INE report, during the past 5 years there has been an average annual increase of 22.06 percent.

Food Group Index

The index for this group rose by 47.59 percent in 1980 by comparison with 1979. This rate was the second highest in the decade that began in 1970. During that decade, the biggest fluctuation on record for the average food group index was 81.72 percent in 1974.

Between 1970 and 1980 food group index fluctuation amounted to 509.7 percent, which is equivalent to an annual average of 46.34 percent. The average annual increases for 1971-1975 and 1976-1980 were 34.95 and 21.68 percent respectively.

Housing Group Index

A fluctuation of 47.89 percent was recorded for the housing group in 1980 by comparison with 1979. This rate exceeds the biggest one recorded in the 1970's, which was 22.22 percent in 1974.

The increase attained between 1970 and 1980 amounted to 333.27 percent, representing an average annual increase of 30.3 percent. Average annual increases of 73.86 and 24.78 percent followed one another in 1971-1975 and 1976-1980.

Wearing Apparel or Clothing Index

The wearing apparel or clothing index showed a growth of 42.68 percent in 1980 by comparison with 1979. This rate of fluctuation was surpassed by the one recorded in 1974, in which there was a rate of 46.06 percent.

An increase of 455.92 percent was recorded between 1970 and 1980. This is equivalent to an average annual growth of 41.45 percent. Average annual increases of 31.1 and 17.48 percent were recorded in 1971-1975 and 1976-1980.

Miscellany Index

The miscellany group contains subgroups such as health, education, travel, tobacco, communications, recreation, personal articles and others, according to the INE bulletin.

In it, it is noted that the increase recorded in 1980 was 49.53 percent in comparison with 1979. This rate exceeds the biggest fluctuations recorded in 1974 (35.43 percent), 1973 (29.57 percent) and 1979 (28.84 percent).

In 1970-1980 a fluctuation of 427.07 percent was recorded, representing an average annual increase of 38.82 percent. Average annual increments of 20.8 and 19.27 percent were recorded in 1971-1975 and 1976-1980.

11,466
CSO: 3010

BOLIVIA

CP LEADER SIMON REYES IN STOCKHOLM: MINERS ARE PARTY BASE

Luleo NORRENSKENSFLAMMAN in Swedish 20 Feb 81 p 3

[Article by Arne Soderquist: "Opposition Again Rising on a Broad Base"]

[Text] Stockholm. Name: Simon Reyes. Age: 48 years. Occupation: Active in Bolivia's Communist Party leadership, also international secretary of the Mine Workers Union and Bolivia's Federation of Trade Unions. Bolivia's Communist Party plays an important role in the Democratic Front (UDP) and in last year's parliamentary elections it made such progress that the party would have had a good foothold in the country's parliament. It would also have been represented in the new people's government which would have taken over. The fascist junta's coup in July of last year temporarily crushed the democratic process.

So says Simon Reyes, one of the leaders of Bolivia's Communist Party and active in the Mine Workers Union as well as the Bolivian Federation of Trade Unions.

Junta Isolated

He says also, "The junta is entirely isolated politically within the country. It is not supported by a single democratic organization. It is isolated even in foreign affairs. Not even Washington has yet seen it in its best interests to recognize the junta, as it is regarded as hopelessly politically compromised.

"However, one can fear that the Reagan administration is ready to ally itself with any reactionary power, and therefore continued international solidarity with Bolivia's people is vitally important."

Prisoners Freed

"This solidarity has previously expressed itself in many ways," said Reyes. "Among other things humanitarian help, often channeled through the church, comes to families whose fathers or sons have been thrown into prison.

"International solidarity also forced my freedom and that of other comrades behind bars.

"That step by the junta was to give the impression that political persecution had lessened. Such is not the case, unfortunately. Oppression and terror are the only means available to the junta to keep itself in power.

"Therefore oppression is going to continue until the democratic parties and the labor union movement have won back enough power to throw the junta out of the saddle."

General Strike

"And opposition to the junta grows constantly in spite of the first humiliating way that the democratic front was hit."

The 48-hour general strike which took place in Bolivia on 13-14 January as answer to the government's new starvation program became a powerful proof that the opposition is reorganizing on a broad basis.

Work in the mines and factories halted, and transportation ceased to function.

Mine Workers the Party's Base

"Mine workers and their families showed, as usual, a rare high degree of class awareness and bravery in the struggle, even though they had to go forward under very difficult circumstances," said Reyes. "Their class consciousness and fighting spirit are related to the special conditions with which mining people have always had to work."

The mining companies operating in Bolivia have had tremendous economic power, and the mine workers have always had to fight hard. All they have won has been through unrelenting struggle. Often they have also given their lives.

Thus the mine workers have been trained and become the heart of the working class, and it is an honor and a strength for the Communist Party that the mine workers together with the factory workers make up the base of the party.

Economic Misery

"Today the struggle is not only to win back the political and union rights and throw off the oppression of the junta, but also to defend the living standard against continuous new attacks from the regime."

Foreign debts have grown like a rolling snowball at the same time as export income has fallen.

The economic misery grows because the junta tries to solve the problems by creating greater subsidies for certain basic products and by mass firings of workers and employees.

Prices for the most common and most needed goods have greatly increased.

Role of the Military

An interesting question which is always important in Latin American countries is naturally what control does the junta have over the military apparatus. Is the military a unified force?

"The junta has a hold on the military, but there are democratic and persecuted elements even among them. Here, as in other South American dictatorships, the military can however count on economic, military, and technical help from Washington."

In that connection Reyes emphasized the importance of the uprising which is taking place in different Latin American countries, and that the struggle against the domestic oppressors and American imperialism must be seen in one entire perspective.

"The people's victory in Nicaragua, like the freedom movement in El Salvador, has naturally great importance for the Bolivian people's struggle, and correspondingly each action of solidarity with one or another Latin American country is of the greatest importance in the common struggle."

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CSO: 3109

AGRICULTURAL SECTOR LACKS MANPOWER, FARM EQUIPMENT

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 21 Feb 81 p 2

[Text] Santa Cruz growers take their case to the government.

Santa Cruz, 20 Feb (PRESENCIA)—A committee from the Chambers of Industry and Commerce and Farming and Livestock and the Cane Growers Federations of this district is in the capital to explain to the president the difficult situation brought on by the lack of manpower for farm chores.

One of the sectors that has begun to feel the shortage of manpower is precisely the sugar cane industry whose estimated shortage of 6,500 men for this year's harvest, which begins early in May, will produce losses to the country of over \$50 million.

In the face of so dismal a prospect for the growers, this committee will request a special permit and certain easy terms for the importing of farm equipment, particularly cane loaders and harvesters.

Before its trip, the committee had promoted a study of mechanization of the sugar cane harvest, which is to be engaged in starting this year. They warned that, if steps are not taken, sugar production throughout the country will be a disaster, resulting in a shortage for national consumption next year as well as an inability to fill the export quotas assigned by the International Sugar Organization.

For the occasion, these chambers have prepared an extensive petition to be submitted to the government in which they solicit its intervention in the search for solutions to the manpower shortage, especially to stem the migration of cane workers to Northern Argentina.

A week ago the cane growers sent President Garcia a paper on the problem suggesting the formation of a commission that would study the question and propose solutions, not only for the cane growers, but for the entire farm and livestock sector. They claim that the lack of manpower is producing losses on the cotton plantations due to a failure to weed them and among the rice growers due to a lack of harvesters.

Members of the Chamber of Farming and Livestock believe that mechanization is the most effective solution to the lack of manpower, a social situation brought on especially by the migration from rural areas into the cities.

Announced to be held in this city next week is a plenary session of the National Commission for the Study of Sugar Cane and Sugar, the agenda for which includes discussion of the manpower shortage and mechanization of farming.

Cane growers began to use mechanical harvesters during the last harvest to make up for the manpower shortage, but they say that the equipment they have acquired is not enough to provide a normal supply of raw material for the sugar mills.

11,466
CSO: 3010

CATTLEMEN SEEK GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 22 Feb 81 p 8

[Text] The Beni and Pando Cattlemen's Federation has expressed to the Advisory and Legislative National Commission (CONAL) the need for the government's studying a policy of total rehabilitation of the livestock industry, according to information received from the president of that private organization, Dr Assad Simon.

Simon noted that the organization had met with CONAL president Gen Juan Lechin Suarez and with the members of that advisory institution, at which time they spoke of the problems the country's livestock industry is facing.

"We explained," he said, "that ours is a country of median incomes with a low growth rate and a very weak system of economic growth, particularly characterized by exploitation of the subsoil, a sector to which all our governments have lent their greatest support and dedicated their chief concern."

He pointed out that its status of mining country has made of Bolivia a nation with but a single product and a single export, thus "making our economic problems acute and neglecting the attention that should be directed toward the farm and livestock sector."

Development of Farm and Livestock Sector

The president of the Beni and Pando Cattlemen's Federation said that these arguments were raised with the CONAL so that throughout the country people may begin to plan the future farm and livestock development of Bolivia, because that industry is the prerequisite for a balanced economic development.

He said that the importance of the farm and livestock sector lies in the fact that 70 percent of Bolivia's population lives in rural areas and that it provides employment for 50 percent of the labor force.

He noted that despite this the farm and livestock sector is facing serious problems since, in order to overcome the difficult situation it is going through, a suitable policy must be planned which will in general contribute to increasing the sector's productivity and to the attempt to economically integrate the rural and urban sectors.

He also noted that the establishment of a credit policy that would really promote stockraising is necessary as well as an animal health policy, requiring that Ministry of Agriculture services be introduced into the department of Beni.

He also suggested the need for a marketing policy that would avoid the excess of middlemen now in existence to get the product to the consumer. "The present situation is chaotic and disorganized. Marketers continue to exploit the producer and go on expanding the gap between the price the producer gets and the price the consumer pays," Simon maintained.

11,466
CSO: 3010

CHAPARE REGION TO INCREASE CACAO CROP

La Paz HOY in Spanish 20 Feb 81 p 6

[Text] Cacao growing will be stepped up this year in the Yungas and Chapare regions through the distribution of 675,000 seedlings and over 1.4 million seeds.

This operation will be conducted jointly by the Bolivian Institute of Farm and Livestock Technology (IBTA) and the Yungas-Chapare Development Program (PRODES) in fulfillment of an agreement signed by both organizations concerning this matter.

Information provided by the IBTA Communication Unit advises us that the production of seeds and plants will be carried out at the Sapecho experimental station, located in Alto Beni, and the existing nurseries in the areas where the above-mentioned plan is to be carried out.

Of the 675,000 above-mentioned plants, 510,000 will be produced at Sapecho and nurseries in Alto Beni. Another 50,000 plants will be produced in the town of San Francisco (Chapare), 30,000 at the La Jota experimental station and 85,000 at nurseries in Ivirza, Bolivar and Gualberto Villarroel, also located in Chapare.

Contained in 40 bundles, the entire supply of seeds (1,400,000) will be produced at the Sapecho station.

The promotion of these new crops will be accompanied by technical assistance to be offered by IBTA researchers and promoters.

Insecticide control operations will also be carried out and six courses in farm training, designed to benefit 120 families in both areas (60 in Yungas and 60 in Chapare), will be developed.

Coffee

Furthermore, the IBTA informants noted that they plan to produce a ton of choice coffee seed and varieties resistant to the cafeto blight at the Coroico experimental station and regional nurseries of Santa Ana, Caranavi, Chulumani, Irupana and Poles.

They are also going to distribute 500,000 cafeto plants, which are resistant to the cafeto blight, among the farmers of Yungas and Chapare.

And lastly, we were informed that this vast program of crop intensification in the Chapare and Yungas regions includes the distribution of 30,000 grafted citrus fruit plants via the Coroico experimental station and another 15,000 from various Yungas nurseries as well as the distribution among farmers of these regions of 25,000 citrus fruit shoots imported from the United States by PRODES.

11,466
CSO: 3010

PINOCHET REFERRED TO AS SOUTH AMERICAN FRANCO

Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 11 Mar 81 p A-8

[Article by staff writer Miguel Schapira: "Pinochet Succeeds Himself"]

[Text] At an internationally propitious time for his enthronement plans, Augusto Pinochet is assuming a new 8-year presidential term in one of the most bizarre constitutional plans ever devised in Latin America. "Pinochet will succeed himself" was the headline in the prestigious French newspaper, LE MONDE, summarizing in that heading the view of the majority of political observers in Chile and abroad.

Pinochet's supporters (who are not few in number) will hail the inauguration in Chile with expressions of polite jubilation, which will attempt to conceal statistical realities such as a foreign debt which, according to official sources, amounted to \$11 billion in 1980, a high unemployment rate and an increasing housing problem.

A Pinochet bolstered by the predictable support that will be lent him by the Reagan administration is ready to begin an 8-year term euphemistically called one "of transition," in which he will seek the consolidation of a plan initiated exactly another 8 years ago, when he overthrew the constitutional government of Salvador Allende in a bloody coup d'etat. Since then, Chile's political and economic orientation has changed drastically, in a kind of odd consistency that has been sustained despite the opposition of the international community.

The analysts observe that the case of Chile has special features which distinguish it from other de facto governments in the Southern Cone.

Whereas the military regimes in Argentina and Brazil, and even the recent Garcia Meza regime, are starting to show some signs of openness, responding to a need inherent in the dynamics of peoples, namely, for political action, Augusto Pinochet is assuming a new term accompanied by a Constitution which does not allow the Senate or the Chamber of Deputies to operate, which restricts the right of assembly and freedom of information, and which grants supreme powers to a junta of military commanders.

Today, at the age of 65, Pinochet is starting a new presidency that will last for 8 years. If the political circumstances remain unchanged in Chile, he will end his term at 73 years of age and, if the government junta confirms it, he may opt

for another term. And if the political fiction so permits, Pinochet Ugarte may complete 24 years in government, becoming a kind of South American Franco at the age of 81. He would thereby join a gallery composed of Somoza and Stroessner, with the peculiar feature that his scenario is taking place in a country which, until 8 years ago, was one of the strongest democracies in Latin America.

2909
CSO: 3010

EDITORIAL CLAIMS IMAGE NO LONGER CRITICAL ISSUE ABROAD

Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 13 Mar 81 p A-3

[Editorial: "The Image Problem"]

[Text] It has been useful to maintain extensive, overt reporting in our country on what the rest of the world has said about us since 1973. Nothing is better than that every Chilean man and woman compare the description which journalists and statesmen give of our reality with the version thereof that is gathered by each one of us, day after day, with his own eyes.

Yesterday we observed some reactions from abroad to the start of the constitutional term of the current president of the republic. In Spain, there was an editorial account of the event in a centrist newspaper, in the following terms: "Starting today, Pinochet a dictator forever." And this on the day marking the beginning of the 8-year period set for the constitutional term in office of the present head of state, which originated, not in a dictatorial coup, but rather in a decision of the people expressed at the polls.

Meanwhile, the prestigious Caracas newspaper, EL NACIONAL, editorializes to the effect that, during this period, "...Chile, with expressions of polite jubilation... will attempt to conceal statistical realities, such as a foreign debt which, according to official sources, amounted to \$11 billion in 1980, a high unemployment rate and an increasing housing problem." The Venezuelan public is being informed of these matters just when Chile has become up to date in the payment of its foreign debt (which had been suspended under the Allende government) and has become an attractive market for foreign investment and credit. Moreover, the net general foreign debt has declined in recent years, because the country's reserves have increased more than its foreign debt. And, during the first quarter of 1981, the "high unemployment rate" mentioned by the Venezuelan press reached the lowest figure in 5 years. Finally, the "increasing housing problem" does not appear to be reflected in the 34 percent increment which, according to official figures, was recorded in building during the first 11 months of 1980.

This is how the world is being informed about the Chilean reality. But the phenomenon does not seem to have harmed the internal process greatly; on the contrary, certain elements of the present government's program have been depicted in large areas of the globe as "categorical tendencies," something that was cited with understandable satisfaction by the Chilean president in his inaugural address.

Furthermore, the strategy of disinformation about Chile has been highly significant in freeing our economy from political compromises and risks. The foreign investment and credit arriving in the country have had to do so despite all kinds of political pressure, so that they have not entered here under any terms of that kind. All the external expedients that could be used for purposes of political pressure have already been applied, upon the withdrawal by the U.S. and several European countries of their programs of assistance to Chile.

Nations with a pragmatic foreign policy, such as Japan, have managed to make discreet use of this opportunity, and have created ties and flows of exchange that have caused us to forget the gaps left by the American or German prejudice, among others.

The problem of the image abroad, which caused so much concern a few years ago, has lost importance. Without succumbing to the arrogance of claiming that if the world is deceived about the Chilean reality it is only "all the worse for the world," it seems justified to describe the distorted accounts of this country reaching us from abroad as a more serious problem for the areas which are thus disinforme than for the regime which they are attempting to discredit.

2909
CSO: 3010

CHURCH-STATE RELATIONS SAID TO BE DETERIORATING

Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 15 Mar 81 p A-3

[Article by correspondent Wilson Tapia: "Church-State Relations in Chile Have Deteriorated"]

[Text] Santiago, 14 March--The holding of photographer Luis Navarro has again lent a tense quality to the relations between the government and the Catholic Church in Chile. Navarro is a graphic reporter for the magazine SOLIDARIDAD, published by the Vicariate of Solidarity of the Archbishop's See of Santiago.

Navarro was apprehended on Wednesday, 11 March, a few minutes after a solemn Te Deum had been held at the Metropolitan Cathedral, as part of the ceremonies marking Gen Augusto Pinochet's assumption of the presidency of the republic.

To date, the whereabouts of the photographer have been unknown. Both the Catholic Church and the Ethics Commission of the Journalists Association have issued statements condemning the action. Requests made to learn details of Navarro's whereabouts and the charges brought against him have failed.

The vicar general of Santiago, Juan de Castro, stated yesterday that the Church authorities, led by Cardinal Raul Silva Henriquez, are concerned about this situation. He added: "The most incredible thing to me is that the arrest took place on the very day that the Church, in a liturgical ceremony, was praying for the government authorities and expressing its good will."

De Castro remarked that a member of the military administration, whom he did not identify, had admitted that Navarro is in detention. But permission to meet with him was denied, because he is in the offices of the National Intelligence Center (CNI), which is the security agency run by the state.

There is every indication that the relations between the Church and the government will undergo new tensions. Local observers estimated that the celebration of the Te Deum last Wednesday, when Pinochet took office, would mean the elimination of differences that have made the relations between Church and state during the past 7 and 1/2 years difficult.

One of the reasons for the differences has been the inflexible attitude assumed by the Church in defense of the rights of individuals. Most of the legal action taken

to curb injustices and to expose excesses has been carried out through the Vicariate of Solidarity.

Obviously, the predictions of a better understanding will not be fulfilled. The fact that Navarro has been detained has seriously disturbed the Church authorities. And if one adds to this the fact that his arrest took place just moments after the Church had issued an appeal for respect, love and wisdom among the rulers, the future situation is unquestionably complicated further still.

Vicar De Castro noted that the Church was not requesting special treatment in this or any other case; but it demanded respect for the Constitution, which went into effect last Wednesday. That legal text stipulates that any person who is detained must be kept in his house or in a place that is not a normal detention site.

The detention of Navarro is the second police action in which an official of the Vicariate of Solidarity has been involved during the past 30 days. In the second half of February, the car of the chief of the institution's legal department, Roberto Garreton, was stoned. To date, the identity of the perpetrators of the attack is unknown.

2909

CSO: 3010

CASTRO VISITS COOPERATIVE IN MATANZAS

PL021347 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro has visited the Augusto Olivares agricultural-livestock production cooperative in the Matanzas municipality of Jovellanos. He toured the sugarcane areas and a housing compound under construction, and chatted with the cooperative's president, Adolfo Garcia, and other local residents.

Garcia told the first party secretary about his experiences in the month he spent working in sugarcane enterprises in Cienfuegos where he shared his know-how with the locals. The president of the Councils of State and ministers told Adolfo Garcia that he had learned that Cienfuegos workers and cooperative members had been very grateful and pleased with Garcia's practical explanations.

During his tour of the plowed, planted and newly sprouting fields the Augusto Olivares cooperative members explained to Fidel the advantages of using a kind of plow to trash immature sugarcane affording good productivity and the mechanization of that type of work. They also told him of an innovation to the cane-loading machine they have. They are using it in front of the tractor instead of behind as is the usual way. They explained that they achieve more productivity and the work is more manageable for the tractor operator. Fidel expressed interest in this innovation.

The tour included areas of Buenavista, Tamarindo, San Pablo, San Jose de Gamarra and Constancia. Fidel was told about a well dug in Constancia where water was found at a depth of 50 meters. Drilling was continued to a depth of 70 meters. Adolfo Garcia remarked on the need for the hydrology department to finish the well's appraisal so that its water potential can be known. Fidel commented that if enough water is found in the cooperative's area, this would be highly beneficial to the irrigation of the sugarcane which is now being cultivated in dry land.

The commander in chief later visited the site of the cooperative's first compound in San Jose de Gamarra. Of the 15 rubblework houses initially planned, six are already under construction by the cooperative members. Fidel toured the site and expressed interest in the architectural details and the facilities the houses will have. These will be one-, two- or three-room houses depending on the needs of the families. Priority will be given to those families who live farthest away and need them the most.

The commander in chief also visited a recently built dairy farm that has more than 60 animals, 34 of them milk cows, all free of disease. The farm, worked both for self-consumption and surplus production, guarantees good results.

Fidel expressed interest in the methods used in one of the planted sugarcane fields and asked if the sugarcane had sprouted despite the lack of water. A cooperative member replied by bending over and extracting some shoots which he showed Fidel, who after examining them, said: Put them back in because we cannot waste even a single shoot.

Back in the batey, Elena Vega, Aldolfo's wife, and other cooperative members joined Fidel in some picture-taking to be kept as mementos. Our top leader invited all, including pioneers, to take part. As in his three previous visits to the cooperative, a smiling commander in chief concluded his visit in a fraternal atmosphere and wished them success in their future endeavours because, he said, we have to grow more sugarcane in the same amount of land; it can yield more, much more.

CSO: 3010

MAJOR EXPLAINS MILITARY POLICY OF COUNTRY

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 15 Feb 81 pp 43-55

[Article by Maj Jose A. Alonso Monterrey, professor of the Maximo Gomez FAR Academy: "The Second PCC Congress Described the Military Policy of Our Socialist State"]

[Text] The Second Congress of our party evaluated the international situation as complex, difficult and tense. Imperialism, particularly the North American, has led the world to the resurgence of a new period of the cold and hot wars and has increased the real possibilities of a generalized world conflict.

Practice has shown that the aggressive nature of imperialism discovered by V.I. Lenin has not changed. The worship of force in general, and the force of arms in particular, evidences that imperialism is not sure of its future as a social system.

The military doctrine of imperialism is a doctrine of war. It does not matter who rules from the White House, a Democrat of the type of Jimmy Carter or a Republican such as Reagan. A permanent order of U.S. military policy has been, and is, the destruction of the Cuban Revolution. For this purpose it has used all types and forms of violence: economic (economic blockade), political (political espionage, sabotage and so forth), military (direct military aggression; it proposes a total naval military blockade) and ideological (ideological diversionism). "In these 5 years--it says in the Central Report to the Second Congress of the PCC [Communist Party of Cuba]--there were activities of political and economic espionage and the enemy placed special emphasis on the work aimed at hampering our trade negotiations with other countries. There were also diversionary actions, which attempted to encourage a climate of ideological indiscipline and destabilization within the country." 1

Faced with the plans and various acts of hostility of the enemy toward our country, the PCC in its Second Congress prepared the socialist military policy and established production and defense of the country as the vital watchword of the moment. The increase and strengthening of production of material goods is the main basic objective for the achievement of a solid defense and for the strengthening of the military might of our socialist state. Economic production is what in the final analysis supplies the resources and instruments for the defense of the country.

"There is nothing that depends so much on prior economic conditions," writes F. Engels, "as much as the army and navy." Armament, the makeup of the army, organization, tactics and strategy depend primarily on the degree of production prevailing and on the system of communications."²

The other element of the watchword of the moment is ideological-political and military training of the people, the party and the country for facing any military confrontation with imperialism in our socialist fatherland. V.I. Lenin said that a revolution is worth something if it is capable of defending itself. The Cuban Revolution has at all times and under any circumstances demonstrated its capacity for defending itself from the class enemy and winning.

The ideological-theoretical and methodological aspects of the Cuban socialist military policy is based on Marxism-Leninism overall and the Leninist doctrine of the defense of the socialist fatherland in particular. We understand the overall efforts of the state and the popular masses, under the leadership of the Communist Party, aimed at preventing, rejecting and defeating the attempts by internal and external counterrevolution to reinstate the system of exploitation of a certain country, to be the defense of the socialist fatherland.

The military policy of the socialist states is defensive in essence, responds to the cardinal interests of all peoples and is defended by hundreds of millions of people throughout the world. That policy is prepared and oriented by the ruling Communist Parties, is expressed on the internal and external plane, and presupposes the active participation by the people in its realization.

The essence of any military policy is determined by the political objectives the state seeks when it creates and uses the armed forces. In the Cuban strategic doctrine, those objectives have an obviously defensive nature. Our military policy responds to the needs of the defense of the country and its final objective is that of contributing to curbing the armaments race of imperialism and achieving total disarmament.

The content of the Cuban socialist military policy is determined by the Communist Party in its congresses and as basic aspects it includes: the preparation, on the basis of Marxism-Leninism, of the military doctrine of the state; the strengthening of the defensive capability of the country, combative brotherhood with the states and armies of the socialist community, political, moral and military solidarity with the communist and national liberation movement, systematic and combative criticism of contemporary bourgeois and revisionist military concepts, the condemnation of the arms race and aggressive attitude of imperialism in general and, finally, the struggle for peace and the attainment of disarmament. Peace, said Martí, is the future of humanity, and Lenin said that the future of humanity is the ideal of socialism.

All these aspects, intertwined among themselves, all together form the content of the military policy of our socialist state. That content is expressed by certain orders, that is, the tasks or missions to be performed by the state and nonstate organizations and by the people in general in the interest of the defense of the socialist fatherland.

A study and generalization of the documents of the Second PCC Congress, will allow the explanation of the basic orders of our military policy as follows:

Permanent Strengthening of the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces]

In this respect the party requires: a) that "The FAR have the modern means for defense and that they have an organization and discipline that will allow them to successfully accomplish assigned missions"³ b) that special attention be paid in daily work to the most complete mastery of existing armament and equipment and that which may be received; c) that the organizational structure of the FAR at all levels be concluded and consolidated on the basis of the advances of the scientific-technical revolution and the headlong development of contemporary socialist military art; ch) that the mobilizing and combat readiness of the FAR continue to be increased; d) that the combat training of the troops be continuously improved; e) that the training of the commanders and staffs be increased in keeping with the advances of contemporary military science; f) that the political-moral and technical-professional training of the FAR, particularly the officers, be continuously increased; g) and that scientific-military research be continued in keeping with our economic development and the defense needs of the country.

The Creation and Development of Territorial Troop Militias (MTT)

In view of the Yankee threats and military maneuvers around Cuba, our party proposed the idea of creating the MTT. This idea was expounded publicly for the first time on 1 May 1980.

"The party, the state, the political and mass organizations," says the first secretary of the party, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, "must concede a vital importance to the task of the creation and development of the Territorial Troop Militias because they are an /indispensable complement of our defensive system/ [in boldface]."⁴

The fight against the enemy, in case he decided to invade us, is the function not only of regular troops but of all the people. The great people's army of our revolution is made up of regular units, reserve units and the MTT. The party and the state will provide each citizen, who is willing to defend the fatherland in case of an imperialist aggression, with the necessary material means for bravely repelling the aggressor and crushing internal counterrevolutionary outbreaks.

"To the idea of the Territorial Militias," it is emphasized in the Central Report to the Second PCC Congress, "must be added the principle that each patriotic Cuban man or woman of any age, under any circumstance, including if a piece of our territory were to be occupied by the imperialist aggressor, must be ready to fight and liquidate the enemy in a fight without truce or quarter. Our fatherland has to be a very hard bone to chew for the tooth of Yankee imperialism and a fishbone that will lodge mortally across its throat if it tries to attack us."⁵

The Cuban people have taken up the task of creating the MTT; thousands of workers, peasants, students and intellectuals have filled out the application forms for joining their ranks. There have been initiatives aimed at strengthening the defensive capability of the country. An example of that has been the donation of wages to swell the funds for paying the costs of the Territorial Troops.

Preparation of the Economy and the Country for the War of All the People

The Second PCC Congress proposes as a primary task the attainment of the most effective ways and means that will guarantee the preparation of the national economy and the country for the waging of the war of all the people is necessary. In that respect it is necessary to:

- A. Consolidate the Military Register in all work centers of the country.
- B. Consolidate the Register of Means and equipment of the economy, whose coefficient of technical preparedness must be increased in that which is a social need as well as for the mobilization and fighting readiness of the FAR and for a better control and execution of the economic plans.⁶

In the accomplishment of this important task, the dialectic interrelation between production and defense becomes obvious.

Consolidation of the Recruiting Policy

Under the present circumstances, the party proposes to call to active service the young men between the ages of 18 or 19, that is, when they have concluded the upper middle level of studies and reach the psychological and physical maturity that will allow them a successful accomplishment of active military service. This measure will be positively reflected in all military work in our units and will result in the increase of the defense capabilities of the FAR.

Training of the Reserve

The reserve units are called upon to perform important missions in the defensive system of the country. For that reason there is the need for their political and military training. The Second PCC Congress requires that emphasis be placed on the qualitative aspect in the training of the reserve. For such purposes, it is necessary to maintain a policy aimed at the incorporation of skilled personnel into the military units.

The power of the reserves is multiple and varied. The problem consists of using it in the interest of strengthening the defense of the country.

Participation of the State Central Administration Agencies and the People's Government Organs in the Defense of the Country.

The preparation of the country for defense is a party and state task. All agencies, institutions and organs of the state must take an active part in its execution. This requires that the bonds between the FAR and the other organs of the state and vice versa, be intensified and systematized.

Military Support and Help to Revolutionary Movements and People Who Fight to Obtain and Consolidate National Independence and Sovereignty.

Military solidarity with the national liberation movement has been, is, and shall be a cardinal principle of the foreign policy of the Cuban Revolution.

The Strengthening of Relations of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Help With the Armies of the Countries of the Socialist Community

The Communist Party of Cuba encourages and highly prizes fraternal relations with the armies of socialist countries, particularly the Soviet Armed Forces. Today our people have powerful armed forces; this is due in great measure to the generous and unselfish help provided by the USSR in combat equipment, the training of specialists and technical-military advice. Thanks to that, our officers master the basic principles and laws of contemporary socialist military art.

The military policy of our party is based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism, the scientific analysis of contemporary reality and the relations of friendship and fraternity among the states and parties of the Socialist Community. When the policy of exploitation, blackmail and force of imperialism disappears from the face of the earth, the socialist military policy will have no reason for existing.

The leadership and guiding role of the Communist Party in the military sphere, active participation of the popular masses in the solution of military tasks and the steadfast application of proletarian and socialist internationalism are cardinal principles of the military policy of the Communist Party of Cuba.

Socialism as a social system does not struggle to obtain military superiority; it struggles for peace and social progress.

"The Second Congress reiterates," it is said in the resolution on international policy, "that the struggle for peace is the most real and decisive task of international scope to which our party, the state and all the other forces of our organized people must continue to pay redoubled attention from now on."⁷

FOOTNOTES

1. Fidel Castro Ruz, Central Report to the Second PCC Congress, VERDE OLIVO No 1/81, p 48.
2. Friedrich Engels, "Anti-Duhring," Editora Politica, 1962, Havana, Cuba, p 203.
3. Communist Party of Cuba Program Platform, Book Institute, 1976, p 115.
4. See Fidel Castro Ruz, Central Report to Second PCC Congress. VERDE OLIVO No 1/81, p 47.
5. Idem, p 47.
6. Idem, p 47.
7. Resolution on international policy approved by Second PCC Congress.

WRITER NOTES HIGH MORALE OF CIENFUEGOS BASED SAILORS

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 15 Feb 81 pp 8-11

[Article by Pablo Noa: "A Tough Bone to Chew"]

[Text] I have to speak about you; of the steadfastness, interest and personal readiness of each of you, characteristics which show in the continuous improvement in knowledge and combat training, factors which all together guarantee the success of the mission that the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] and the party has entrusted to you.

For young men such as Sandalio Garcia, Jorge Sarduy and Nelson Machin, there is no greater satisfaction than knowing that the equipment given to them has been the most outstanding in the socialist emulation, for which reason they received the individual and collective praise of all the members of the unit.

"I truly feel proud to belong to a unit such as this one," says Sandalio, a radio location operator, "This feeling," he continued, "is manifested by all my comrades. Imagine, we are the first to detect the enemy approaching our coasts."

The rest of them confirmed the words of this vanguard of emulation in the unit with various statements.

Heriberto Toledo is the chief. He has played an important role in the development reached by the members of the unit.

From his position at the radar Nelson is concerned because the chief is being talked about.

"He is not here now," he continues, "but it is fair to say that. Thanks to him many of us, the oldest, are not only capable of performing the tasks we have with quality and accuracy but we also cooperate in the training of new comrades."

"Actually," interrupts Jorge, another member of the station, "the group spirit existing here makes us feel as if were in a large family."

This optimism was present in all of them. Hundreds of men, mainly young men.

We feel that spirit, which also affected us.

That is why I speak of these young men, who are like the rest: happy, intelligent and responsible.

They are trained and continue to train. They love the people, the party and the revolution, that is why they zealously care for the magnificent and modern equipment that the state has placed in their hands to defend the socialist fatherland at any price.

We understood this when in a jocose tone but filled with seriousness, Nelson shouted: "It makes no difference if the enemy rises early, the navy does not sleep!"

His words summarize the feeling that reigns among these fighters.

Before them spreads the immense coast. Far away, like an impenetrable line, is the Cuban horizon.

That is why I speak of sailors; of men of various ages but of a single origin; fighters who guard our waters, who are ready at the given signal to destroy whoever attempts to attack us with explosive speed.

And the signal sounded.

From a radio observation post came the warning.

Everyone went to his post without loss of time. There at their post on the decks of missile boats, minesweepers, torpedo boats, submarine chasers and other ships, together with their chiefs, the sailors ready their vessels for going into combat.

The commander of a minesweeper, vanguard in emulation, Corvette Lieutenant Navarro, gives the orders required by the circumstances. His subordinates execute them with precision.

Emorio, the gunner, is already behind his weapon. The rest also occupy their positions.

The chief receives the reports: all are ready!

The boat is completely combat ready.

Something similar is happening on board the submarine chasers. On one of them, upon receipt of a signal of chemical attack, without changing pace, the crew put on their gas masks, leaving them ready to perform whatever actions are ordered.

Mastery and skill are visible factors. They are outstanding.

The characteristics and the functions of the torpedo boats and missile boats causes them to be ready in a short time, as is said: "in the blinking of an eye."

Corvette Captain Alonso and other officers who are in charge of the exercise, check the times and compliance with plans. They could not hide their satisfaction.

"What you see," says Corvette Captain Alonso, "is always that way. If it were up to them we would always be having practices."

Further on he adds:

"It is not by accident that this unit is the initiator of socialist emulation in the district. The will of its members is one: To comply and do it well."

When the signal stops they return to their usual activities.

Then there is a common fraternal dialog among the sailors. The chiefs meet with the crews and analyze the aspects that must be improved.

They return to classes on tactics, technology, politics, maintenance of weapons and equipment.

We could write pages about the collective victories, the determination, confidence and certainty with which they move and perform their task; all of them without exception.

"It is not only because of the complexity and danger of the present situation. It is because we also believe in the responsibility we have always had in the defense of this part of the territory of our country," said Corvette Captain before bidding us goodby.

The setting of the sun brought the end of the afternoon and the day.

In the small units of the Revolutionary Navy, life continued its normal course.

We returned. Through our minds passed those moments spent with those fighters.

Men and machinery of war. Accuracy, precision and time, so important for victory!

But there was love, understanding, courage...

And once more I recalled the statements by Ricardo Coca, Raul Villarreal, Carlos Dites, Rogelio Pelaez and many others:

"We train to fight and win. Whoever attempts to come here will find a tough bone to chew, as Fidel said."

8908

CSO: 3010

EASTERN ARMY HOLDS ANTI AIRCRAFT FIRING COMPETITION

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 15 Feb 81 p 56

[Article by Rene Avila Espinoza: "Antiaircraft Defense Competition"]

[Text] The third competition in the antiaircraft defense speciality of the Eastern Army was held recently in a unit of the Holguin Army Corps as a worthy tribute to the 20th anniversary of the victory of Giron, coinciding with the 20 years of the Eastern Army and the founding of the Ground Troop Antiaircraft Defense.

The event had as its objective the increase in fighting cohesion of the crews, determination of the level reached in the instruction of the troops, and the selection of the team from the Eastern Command to participate in the competition in this specialty at the Revolutionary Armed Forces level.

During the progress of the competitive activity, the revolutionary skill, discipline and enthusiasm of the young soldiers in carrying out the competition as it had been scheduled, was evident.

Warrant Officer Ruben Rodriguez Echavarria, in the name of the winning team, read the pledge in which it is said that they are aware of what the training of the antiaircraft defense units means at the time of constant threats by imperialism we are undergoing, which led our commander in chief to say at the close of the Second Party Congress that two basic tasks of the country are production and defense.

Closing the activity, Lt Col Ruben del Toro said that the competitions achieved their objectives with the quality and organization required.

He emphasized that the soldiers of ground troops aircraft defenses showed once more that the sky over our country will be well guarded and that during the danger of war they will know how to play their sacred role of revolutionary soldiers.

8908

CSO: 3010

TROOP MORALE IN COMBAT CONSIDERED OF GREAT IMPORTANCE

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 22 Feb 81 pp 28-31

[Article in VERDE OLIVO "Military Psychology and Education Affairs" section by Maj Roberot Echevarria, Professor of the General Maximo Gomez FAR Academy: "Morale in Combat"]

[Text] The analysis of the speeches and documents prepared by our commander in chief shows that he has always taken the spirit of the soldiers and the masses into consideration with consummate sensitivity when it comes to reaching an objective, overcoming a difficulty, accomplishing a mission or facing the critical situations our people have endured.

We recall how in the moments of the difficult year of 1961, after the Giron invasion was defeated, when inaugurating the Osvaldo Sanchez Political Instructors school, Fidel said that if the invaders were from the United States we should prepare to fight, to prepare our minds and prepare our resolve.

Today, when that same enemy renews its threats and announces the blockade and invasion of the first socialist country of Latin America, our commander in chief feels the pulse of the masses and emphasizes in his speech closing the Second Regular Period of Sessions of the People's Goverment National Assembly:

"Never! Never has the morale of our masses, our workers, our laborers, our youth, and our women been like that we have today!"

This special concern of the First secretary of the PCC[Communist Party of Cuba] about the state of mind shows the place and role which the leadership of the Revolution has given to spiritual values and state of mind in a possible military confrontation with the imperialist enemy.

State of mind, as a spiritual strength which with a certain force expresses emotions which positively or negatively, with greater or lesser duration influence the functioning of the psyche or the activity of man, is called upon to play an important role in this confrontation.

If at the time the soldier begins to overcome the difficulties of war he is imbued with a positive and prolonged spirit, it will influence him, increasing his psychic operativeness and the results of his activity. If the contrary happens, then these conditions can descend to levels which are sometimes incalculable.

This phenomenon has a physical-psychological basis, which indicates, if the result is favorable, that in the psyche there is present an excitation of greater or lesser intensity, depending on the emotions and feelings which allow the normal work and fluidity of all the psychic elements so that they increase fighting readiness and help to use the internal possibilities, those of the weapon and those provided by the exterior environment, including the enemy.

If the influence is negative, it means that there is a center of inhibition which neutralizes the mobility and capacity for reaction and orientation of the psyche or of some of its basic elements. As a result, the activity of man decreases and subsequently the useful employment of equipment, armament and the conditions surrounding the battle also decrease.

This illustrates that the state of mind plays a prominent role if it is produced by positive feelings because only in this way can it act as a favorable emotional background for the full manifestation of all the psychological qualities demanded by combat: Political-moral and esthetic feelings, convictions, experience, will, character, ability, knowledge, habits, skills and customs.

The state of mind element is the most dynamic in the psyche. This characteristic is provided by the dependency it has on the more stable and basic factors, on the one hand, and temporary and secondary situations, on the other.

In the first group are found, among others, the nature of the social system, the dominant ideology, the level of satisfaction of social needs, and the predominant objectives, interests, motivations and feelings in the persons.

The fact that on one hand this element depends on these factors gives us the chance to declare that it is a matter of a phenomenon of a profound social nature, which can act with great stability and power, and also that its effect on our soldiers will be higher and more positive than on the enemy.

This last statement is demonstrated by the quantitative and qualitative superiority these causitive agents have in our society as compared with the bourgeoisie, where exploitation and antagonistic contradictions, an alienated ideology and the psychology of the dollar, personal profit and the law of the strongest prevails, where the force of objectives, motivations and feelings is limited by the unjust nature of the wars they unleash.

In our society this superiority is born of the nature of the socialist system, where there are neither exploited nor antagonistic contradictions, where there is the force of the Marxist-Leninist ideology which prevails among the people, the justice of the objectives and interests of the war in defense of the socialist fatherland, the force and depth of motivations, patriotic feelings, hate for the enemy and international solidarity.

The strength of the revolutionary soldiers will be greater because, as the leader of the revolution said at the inauguration of the Celia Sanchez Mandulary Clinical-Surgical and Teaching Hospital: "There is nothing more powerful than a just idea, than a people fighting for their cause, for their country, for their land, for their ideas, for the concepts of what they consider noble, decent, just and honorable."

In the second group of situational factors are the presence or expectation of danger, obstacles which prevent the accomplishment of certain missions, temporary failures, disagreeable news, unexpected situations, disorientation, unfulfillment of natural needs and others. These agents can be caused by the enemy's use of mass extermination weapons, massive use of conventional weapons and psychological warfare. They can also be caused by a sudden change in the situation, loss of lives, equipment and weapons, unfavorable terrain conditions and others.

When these elements are dominant in the upsurge and development of the spirit of a soldier when he encounters a difficult situation, he becomes easy prey to negative emotions of fright, fear, dread, depression and panic.

When this happens, it is a sign that the most stable factors are not yet a fact of deep awareness, that the necessary volitive-emotional stability does not exist and emotional reactions related to the instinct for self-preservation and insecurity produce a serious effect.

Temporary stimuli have the possibility of influencing the psyche and activity because they act with relative independence from the first group. Situational phenomena are not always the source of inhibitory sentiments; they may also generate excitatory sentiments. At any rate, these phenomena cannot be dominant in man and he must have a high political-moral, psychological, professional and physical training. He must also be very aware of the social importance and significance of the activity he performs.

If the soldier has these requisites, then real or potential danger and temporary failures, for example, help to heighten combative excitation in him. The revolutionaries who attacked the Moncada and landed from the Granma demonstrated that this is true.

In the training of capitalist armies, the following case prevails: Since they cannot create a strong fighting spirit in their personnel by using the stable factors as a basic source for nurturing them, they concern themselves greatly with conditioning the behavior of man on the basis of the effects of emotional experiences related with his basic needs: food, rest, sexual activity and so forth.

They seek to convert the unfulfillment or fulfillment of these demands of the human being into the source of his activity: They want to have these needs generate emotions which will unleash the aggressiveness, rivalry and blind and irrational hate which they say human nature has.

These are the means they use for seeking the readiness required by war.

To train a soldier in this respect, they rely on the so-called theory of profundities or of profound instincts because they believe that they direct social behavior from the subconscious.

Life has demonstrated the behavior of the imperialist soldier. During the invasion of Vietnam, to cite one of the more recent examples, they committed the worst atrocities and cruelly violated women, thus satisfying their sexual needs in a more than animalistic manner. This, which they did with the authorization of command, "increased combative energies."

Something similar happens when they obtain a temporary victory, their resolution increases. However, when they have to bite the dust of defeat, if they are not killed in the battle, it declines.

It is unquestionable that a soldier moved by inner forces of that nature, who act practically within the framework of unconditioned reflexes, cannot be superior from the morale point of view to another in whom there are profound higher conditioned reflexes, high feelings and motivations of love of man and loyalty to internationalism.

The behavior of the mind in armed struggle is closely related to the development of moral-combative qualities which are created throughout the system of training.

Because the state of mind in combat is conditioned by the creation and development of these qualities in times of peace, we have to give maximum efficiency to combat, operational, political and psychological training of units and eliminate all superficiality, ritualism and easiness. That is why there is the need to strictly and creatively comply with regulations, orders, ordinances and instructions, which rule all of military training and life.

The joint work of the commanders, officers, political workers and organizations of the PCC and the UJC [Union of Young Communists] has magnificent results in the training of man for war, but this activity must be increased in combat where the stimuli which can really destabilize the psyche are really present.

To increase the readiness of the mind in armed conflict with the enemy, this work has to be aimed at guaranteeing a progressive increase of the influence of the more stable excitors of high social meaning and prevent the manifestations and propagation of negative emotions related to situational elements.

For these objectives, attention must be paid to strengthening of awareness of the objectives and the just nature of the war the people wage; confidence in victory and the possibilities of the struggle must be consolidated, the intentions of the enemy must be unmasked, his psychological war must be counteracted, the soldiers must be united around the party and its first secretary, vigilance must be increased and discipline strengthened. Strict compliance with the orders of commanders must also be required and they must guarantee the optimum use of forces and materiel; new lessons learned in the fight against the modern equipment of the enemy and acts of heroism must be disseminated; any manifestation of negative phenomena such as fear, dread, intranquility, alarm, insecurity before a powerful enemy, cowardice, panic, indecision and others, must be vigorously fought.

Despite the fact that these activities strengthen individual and collective ideology and courage, political and party work must also pay attention to the consolidation of the more stable elements of collective psychology: mutual relations, traditions and public opinion.

With this objective, among other things, combative cooperation and camaraderie must be strengthened, the willingness to help the one who finds himself in the most difficult situation must be put into practice; compliance with the principles which rule the relationships of revolutionary soldiers in the field of battle must be intensified, authority of commanders and communists must be increased, combative traditions must be revived, examples of heroism, bravery and daring must be publicized, any manifestation of weakness and scepticism before the enemy must be fought, and every rumor neutralized by means of an operative and timely information.

With these measures, the aforementioned elements acquire greater solidity and therefore, contribute in a greater measure to maintaining the spirit and unity of a small unit high. This environment strengthens positive individual feelings, neutralizes negative feelings and serves as a mobilizing and inspiring force for the soldiers, turning them into a force hard to stop.

It was precisely Lenin, who evaluating the role of collective morale emphasized in his 13 May 1920 speech: "In every war, victory is conditioned in the final analysis by the morale of the masses who shed their blood on the field of battle."

That Leninist concept has been confirmed by the Cuban revolutionaries in the fight for independence, obtaining victory from an enemy who had superiority in men and weapons.

If the executors of political and party work take maximum advantage of the motivating possibilities contained in the socialist society under the particular situations in which they carry out their activities, if they creatively apply the methods, forms and means of propaganda and organizational and ideological agitation; if they base themselves on the mobilizing capacity and mastery of the commander in chief, then individual and collective spirit will become an internal force which will strengthen discipline and help to comply exactly with orders and missions proposed, which prevents violations and achieves the suitable offensive drive and spirit of resistance.

State of mind does not manifest itself isolatedly in war but rather as part of the strengths which make up the morale factor. It acts in interaction with ideology, the system of social relations, traditions and other components of the morale factor, neutralizing itself from them on the one hand, and on the other, serving as a condition for the influence that these elements exercise in war.

State of mind is the most dynamic component of the morale factor, that is why the more positive and stable it is, the more it will favor the optimum materialization of the readiness and spiritual capabilities which the people and the FAR have for fighting, resisting and defeating the enemy, defying the dangers that may present themselves.

Our people and their soldiers have given examples of the role that the spirit of willingness plays in the face of danger. They gave them at the time of La Coubre, Giron, October Crisis, the Battle Against Bandits, in the Days of Patriotic Reaffirmation and at many other times in which collective heroism has been put to the test.

At this time, when the imperialist enemy may cause a repetition of those glorious days, we have to rise and comply with the instructions given by Fidel at the inauguration of the Osvaldo Sanchez Political Instructors School: "If we have to fight directly against the United States, we must not allow ourselves to be overtaken by weariness or by lethargy; we must remain firm, not allow ourselves to become demoralized, not allow confusion, cowardice or panic to take root at any time."

In short, maintain morale, which is a factor for victory.

8908

CSO: 3010

MAJOR CONVERTS 500-GALLON TANKS INTO WATER COOLERS

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 15 Feb 81 p 46

[Article by Guerra: "Fruits of Invention"]

[Text] When Maj Gilfredo Oberta Espinosa was struck by the idea of turning 500-gallon water tanks into gigantic coolers to insure cold water for all the soldiers, he did not imagine that with the passage of time his initiative would circulate through the units and much less that he would win a prize in the Exposition of Rationalizers and Inventors of the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces].

As is natural, necessity acted as the catalyst and reaction was accelerated. Gilfredo had been observing that the coolers existing in his unit did not insure cold water to all the soldiers; then with the help of Capt Heraldo Galarraga, he set to work.

The first problem in his path was to determine whether water circulated, that is, whether it renewed itself depending on its use. If it became stagnant in the tank, the medical services would refuse approval. Everything was calculated and the results were positive; circulation was insured.

The rest was a matter of thinking and working. The immense tank was covered with cork and recovered with asphalt, then a fine coat of cement would give the OK to the thermal insulation. Two variants were conceived for the adaptation of the motors. It could be an IF-56 with a double coil or an FK with a single coil of 18 or 19 turns.

Of course the materialization of the idea was not as easy as it is now told and there were many other tasks requiring a well-pondered solution.

On the advantages of the new water cooler, Major Gilfredo says:

"In the first place, there are 500 gallons of cold water. That means it can be provided constantly to the soldiers because it only takes approximately 2 hours to cool. On the other hand, production costs are very low and installation time short. Each adapted tank replaces twenty 100-liter coolers.

"Does the cooler cool well," we asked.

"Judge for yourself. Once they sent for me from the messhall of the unit. Not this one but the first one in which I served. There they told me that the cooler was broken. Well, I opened the faucet and there was no water. However, there was water in the rest of the messhall. Then I lifted the top of the tank and found a thick cap of ice holding the float, which did not allow the water to flow."

While finishing the sentence, he arises and brings a certificate. It is the prize won in the FAR exposition. We read: "Fiber cement tank covered with insulating material and Supembin interior refrigerant lines and PAK refrigeration unit which guarantees cold water at all times." This is the technical description.

In the units already in operation, there have been no problems with cooling, nevertheless, they must be cared for and maintained to insure uninterrupted and efficient operation. This is for the benefit of the soldiers themselves.

At this time work is being done on another invention by Major Gilfredo. It is that of replacing two FAN motors with a small one-half or one horsepower motor with the aid of two toothed bars to adapt them to the diffusers of freezing and temperature control equipment of cold storage rooms and chambers.

To change the subject, we want to say that the collective where Espinosa works has a tradition of invention and rationalization. To mention some of those works we shall mention the helmet shop, the rationalization of the zambranes [meaning unknown], field bathing and hand washing facilities, boilers and others.

Of course, without the active participation of all the workers the materialization of all these ideas would not have been possible. He is aware of this. That is why the money he received as a prize was donated to a recreational activity with all the workers.

8908

CSO: 3010

FIRST THREE-MONTH MINFAR EMULATION CHECKUP HELD

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 15 Feb 81 p 56

[Article by Alba: "Emulation Checkup"]

[Text] The first three-month emulation checkup of the units and departments of the Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [MINFAR] was held recently and attended by commanders, officers, secretaries general and secretaries of emulation of the various union rank and file sections.

The activity began with a tour through the old Spanish fortress, where the hosts explained in detail everything having to do with the place and the most important historical events that have taken place since its construction in the 17th Century.

The Ceremony

Comrade Miriam Reyes of the sectoral directorate read the report on the results of emulation in the period under analysis. The negative and positive aspects contained in the report were discussed by those attending and concluded with the selection of the winner in the phase which is ending. In the first group, the award was received by the Antonio Maceo Interservice School; in the second, by the Sports Unit and in the third, by a Security and Services Unit. The banners were given to the secretaries general of these three units by Lt Cols Enrique Rivas, Jose Mar and Andres Argote, the first secretary of the MINFAR Sectoral Unit.

An enthusiastic happiness filled the area of the activity, which included challenges among units and an emotional "attack" by the Union of Young Communists in which the event was hailed and the support of the Revolutionary Armed Forces civilian workers for the agreements of the second congress of our party, particularly the creation of the Territorial Troop Militias [MTT], was expressed.

The closing speech was made by Lt Col Enrique Rivas, who referred to the positive results complying with production and services plans.

"We congratulate the winning chiefs and union sections and we urge those who have not played a proper role in this phase to eliminate the shortcomings listed in the report and to attack specific tasks," he said.

ANTONIO MACEO'S INTERSERVICE SCHOOL CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 15 Feb 81 p 57

[Article by Luis Lopez: "Eighteenth Anniversary of the Antonio Maceos"]

[Text] Eighteen years may be many or few, it all depends on their good example and use. For those who founded the present Antonio Maceo Interservice School in 1963 and who now parade on the recently inaugurated infantry parade ground, it seems like a long time, although in their minds the pleasant memories and the devoted effort made so that this military teaching school may be at the level of the development of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR], are still fresh in their minds.

Behind them are the blocks of buildings that house each of the faculties which today are the source of command cadres, the production of replacements for the armed branch of the revolution.

Thus began the activities on the 18th anniversary of the Antonio Maceo Interservice School, whose remote ancestors were the recruit schools created in the Sierra Maestra in 1958. In each of the comrades, who in one way or another work in this CEM [Military Training Center], is shown the satisfaction of fulfilled duty. But this happiness has not been restricted to the area of the school, of that we are certain. In many of the FAR units are found young officers who graduated from this school, who recall with pride those days as students, or rather, as cadets, which meant so much to their lives dedicated to the defense of the country.

The parade ended, a great mural with the photographs of the members of the Communist Party of Cuba Political Bureau members are unveiled in which the photograph of our commander in chief is prominent because of its size. It is at this moment that the words of Fidel about the center come to our mind:

"What can be said about this school is that the cadets, without yet having been in war, have graduated as veteran officers."

From Yesterday to Today

This CEM, like the rest of those operating now, came into being because of a need, because of the constant aggressions and threats of imperialism against our country.

In its beginnings, the completion of the school was accomplished in great measure with comrades from the Rebel Army, young men who after the victory of the revolution joined the FAR.

At that time, and due to the immediate needs, level of schooling required was not high, a problem which was improved upon as the years passed. Moreover, the Basic Study Materials were obtained with the efforts of the comrades themselves, who at times did not have the materials required.

At this time, students from the Camilo Cienfuegos Military Vocational Schools, Troop Schools and from the National Educational System, whose level of education is preuniversity, enter the cadet course. Living conditions are also being constantly improved. Sergeants, soldiers and officers clubs are created in the unit.

The Basic Study Materials have been improved extraordinarily in order that the military, technical and political training taught be better assimilated by the students and will comply with the basics of contemporary combat.

An example of this is the automobile track inaugurated as part of the anniversary of the CEM, which will allow the complementation of theoretical lessons with practical exercises and allow the teaching of all driving classes. In a dragon-tooth field, officers, cadets and civilian workers contributed hours of effort and sacrifice to building 18 obstacles, an activity control tower and two classrooms. Like the infantry parade ground, both constructions were completed as a tribute to the Second Party Congress.

At this time, instruction is given in special classrooms with electronic devices, laboratories, firing ranges, study centers, didactic films, libraries, halls, offices and others, as well as with the modern combat equipment and weapons which the FAR have.

In 1977, pursuant to Decree No 14/77, this center was raised to the higher education level so that in its various branches it trains men for degrees in political sciences, automobile technology exploitation engineering, armored equipment, machinery engineers, economic engineers, military mechanical engineers, and other specialties.

The pride of the armed forces, this school, as Martí said, should be called a shop where the steel will of our officers and the nobility of their ideals is forged and which on its 18th anniversary shows the fruits of an austere work.

8908

CSO: 3010

MIG REPAIR SHOP VISITED BY COSMONAUT TAMAYO

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 15 Feb 81 pp 38-40

[Article by Luis Lopez: "Produce for Defense"]

[Text] It was a holiday for the comrades of the Yuri Gagarin Military Industrial Enterprise. In the morning hours there was the visit by the first Latin American cosmonaut, Col Arnaldo Tamayo Mendez, alternate member of the party central committee and Hero of the Soviet Union and of the Republic of Cuba.

This fact, prized by the workers of the center as a historic event, allowed many of them to shake the hand of their friend and others to learn the evaluation of the operation and quality of the instruments built in that enterprise for use in space during the joint flight.

In that respect, Tamayo Mendez said: "...and allow me to congratulate you because the instruments you made with so much care and meticulousness functioned marvelously."

The Yuri Gagarin Military Industrial Enterprise was created in 1966, at which time the first MIG 15 was repaired in its shops. The glorious name it bears today was not received until 1975, when as a result of the successes it obtained, it was awarded the Yuri Gagarin Combative Friendship Banner.

During these last 6 years, the center has been engaged in an arduous task: In addition to improving its productive process in order to maintain the modern and complex equipment with which our air force is equipped in a full state of combat readiness, it created the conditions for the implementation of the Economic Management and Planning System (SDPE), since it was selected from among the experimental enterprises of the country for the application of economic computer programming.

For that reason, it began to comply with the timetable for the implementation of the SDPE of the armed forces, measures which include the training of administrative personnel and cadres through economic courses, organizational tasks of an internal type and others contained in the plan this year.

Work for improving the organization of work was continued in 1979, which caused the satisfactory compliance with the production plan. It was precisely the year in which wages were linked to quotas in all productive shops and there was the method of collective payment as a means for linking compliance with the plan of the brigades with that of the shop. In this manner, compliance in tangible assets was achieved.

For the first time a bonus was distributed among the workers. It reached 300,000 pesos. Two-thirds of this total was directly given to them, 65 percent going to reward the results of emulation. The rest, the other 100,000 pesos, was used to increase the funds of social-economic measures.

The Situation Today

The road was not easy. Many difficulties had to be overcome to arrive at the successes achieved in 1980. "Among them," says Col Osmell Perez, chief of production of the enterprise, "were the organizational problems for the repair of aircraft, different because of their technical characteristics as well as because of the missions they perform; in turn, the low level of technical-material supplies forced us to find operative solutions to the problems such as that of making 200,000 repair parts and the application of new technical measures in some equipment. All this allowed us to fulfill the plan and even perform other tasks for the benefit of the economy and defense.

"A leading role," he adds, "was played by the strict supervision of the production plan, the increase in the level of requirements, unity in the management of the enterprise and unity of the latter with the party and union, as well as the effective assistance provided by Soviet specialists."

Results obtained by the enterprise in 1980 were the best in all its history. Planning reached down to the man at his job, which made it possible to pay bonus pay and link the calendar operational plan with the general economic plan. Thus, each of the links of the productive chain was on par with the rest. The bonus regulation was approved and thanks to it, every worker by himself knows when he loses a certain percentage of it because of errors in quality and other reasons.

The enterprise complied with its annual production plan in merchandise by 103.4 percent, while in accomplishment it did so by 106.1 percent. Work productivity was exceeded by 2.2 percent despite the fact that the average number of workers was 2.1 smaller than that of the plan. Production costs declined positively. Due to these results, the incentive fund for the year was created.

"The conclusion could be reached that the productive results are due only to the application of Economic Computerization," says Orlando Vigoa Aballi, chief of the brigade of the engine testing station, "however, that is not so. The workers have always been concerned with quality and production, something which is shown by accomplishment of the task. Last year the engine shop awarded it the bonus because it was the best in the enterprise."

Speaking about the bonus regulation, Vigoa described it as "demanding, but it is good, on the other hand, because the comrades know that a complaint or a lack of quality in completing work means a decrease in the bonus. Moreover, although the work norms in the motor shop are somewhat complex, there is technical know-how and possibilities for attaining them."

The work of the party has facilitated the implementation of the SDPE. Its help has been based on the explanation to the workers of the organization changes effected, individual work with man and also on the power of the example of its members. Basilio Foster Salmon, basic vanguard of the transport and agricultural aircraft shops, says that the reason for being of the party, in addition to all the ideological work and the education of the workers, is to watch over the fulfillment of the plan of the enterprise; "For that, the cell assigns tasks to the members and any noncompliance in production is analyzed so that it may serve as a lesson and at the same time allow the implementation of measures."

Inventions and innovations have been a strong element for the solution of difficulties during all this time. They have helped to improve technological flow and have even created equipment and parts. "An example," says Enrique Castillo Reyes, chief of brigade of the High Velocity shop, "is that of a piece of equipment made by the comrades of the enterprise, which allows the testing of the aircraft systems separately, that is, without the need for totally assembling a part of the aircraft in order to test it. This helps us to save money and work."

The workers have finished their morning shift, tens of subjects arise for an agreeable chat, among them is that of the Territorial Militias. Enrique Castillo tells us that the civilian workers agreed to contribute the equivalent of a year's union dues before 30 March and he adds: "Our shop will specifically give 1,060 pesos. With that we shall have made our contribution to the militias, that is, to the defense of the country."

8908
CSO: 3010

LATIN AMERICANS UNITE, FIGHT IMPERIALISM

PA211440 Radio Venceremos (Clandestine) in Spanish to El Salvador 2300 GMT
20 Mar 81

[Text] Throughout Central America and the Caribbean, imperialism sees the collapse of its dreams of keeping the continent under its domination. United Fruit, General [words indistinct] and all the transnational monsters, daily see how their financial empire is coming to an end in our countries.

They will no longer exploit the sweat of our workers. They will no longer sack our natural resources, nor will they take our minerals and leave behind tuberculosis in our mines.

With the advance of our peoples, Central America is now belonging more and more to Central Americans. This is why imperialism is desperate and this is the reason for their armament deliveries including helicopters, bombs, rifles and ammunition to the Salvadoran dictatorship.

However, these attacks are not only against the self-determination of Salvadorans. This maneuver is also against the Panamanian people, struggling to become completely independent. It goes against the Guatemalan people which today fights another bloody military dictatorship. The strategic maneuvers of imperialism are also aimed at the Nicaraguan people, not only cutting their wheat shipments and loans, but also now plotting against its revolution and training mercenaries in Miami to attack Nicaragua.

The imperialist aims go far beyond attacking the just struggle of the Salvadoran people. They are also aimed at the people of Grenada and all peoples who are today striving to break the ties of dependency.

Imperialism, in its Central American and Caribbean conspiracy, has faithful lackeys among local exploiters. Thus they have found in the (Sol Millets), Pomas, Duenas and Alfonso Robelo the exploiters of our peoples who join international reactionaries in their counterrevolutionary efforts.

In Honduras this strategy could not be absent. Today, the Honduran Christian Democrats, as a result of current internal contradictions, have said that the Yankee ambassador has been meeting with various Honduran sectors to promote the

creation of a new party to try to fool the people with the lure of reforms and a democratic opening. That is to say, at this time, when Honduran society has begun making revolutionary overtures, when the people have begun to awaken after centuries against exploitation and imperialist domination, now Mr Binns is looking, not for a Somoza, but for a Duarte to try to halt the people's struggle in Honduras, which is today reaching unprecedeted levels.

In view of all this counterrevolutionary strategy in the area, it is important for Central Americans to unite against these manipulations by Washington. This is the time for Central Americans to close ranks, for each and every one of us to consolidate within our countries the unity of democratic and revolutionary sectors. Without this unity we shall be an easier target for imperialist strategy.

Unity is the word which should be on the lips of all revolutionaries and all democratic sectors in Central America and the continent so we can thereby defeat imperialism once more.

What better opportunity for all Latin America to unite than on the day we are proposing--the Monsignor Romero Latin America unity day on 24 March--first anniversary of Monsignor Romero's murder. On 24 March we must show our power and popular support in all of Latin America with meetings, mobilizations, expositions and all kinds of activities to repudiate intervention in Central America and the continent, to repudiate all oppressive regimes in our countries, to repudiate the murderers of Monsignor Romero. Today, his murderers at the Salvadoran Presidential House continue giving orders, advised by U.S. technicians to bring genocide and death by means of an army that has shamefully become the dagger thrust into the heart of Salvadorans.

Latin America today needs unity. Latin Americans, let us join the Monsignor Romero Latin America unity day on 24 March. Latin Americans, Central Americans, let us unite to fight until final victory.

CSO: 3010

FMLN DESCRIBES GENOCIDAL ACTS OF ARMED FORCES

PA201551 Radio Venceremos (Clandestine) in Spanish to El Salvador 2300 GMT
19 Mar 81

[Comuniqué issued by the Foreign Relations Committee of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front in San Salvador on 17 March 1981]

[Text] The International Relations Committee of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front of El Salvador, FMLN, denounces the genocidal actions that the fascist army of the Christian Democratic junta is staging at this time in Morazan Department in the following cantons: Lomo Alegre, Junquillo, (Estipilin), Aguas Blancas, Bahia Negra, (Estante), Zapotal, in the townships of Cacaopera, Meanguera and Osicala, along the banks of the Torola River in Cabanas Department and in the towns of Santa Marta, San Felipe, San Geronimo, La Pinta, and El Salitre, where large-scale massacres are underway with the objective [words indistinct] terror in the civilian population to such an extent that the inhabitants have only two choices: 1) to hide from the bombing and die of hunger or 2) to remain in the area and be killed by the genocidal troops.

The bombing affects children, women and defenseless old people, according to statements made by a 14-year-old child, who described how children were killed by being run through with machetes from their spines to their navels. The old people's necks were cut. The women were raped and tortured before being killed. A 2-day-old child was strangled, as was his mother.

The genocidal actions are being extended at this time to San Vicente and Guazapa Hill.

We appeal to the International Red Cross, the UN International Rights Committee [as heard] and to international humanitarian organizations to verify the horrendous massacre that the Christian Democratic junta, with the aid of the armed forces and U.S. advisers, is carrying out to crush the demonstrations of the Salvadoran people, who are now rising up to fight for dignity and national liberation. United to fight until the final victory! Revolution or death, we shall triumph!

CSO: 3010

RADIO VENCEREMOS REJECTS JUNTA'S CALL FOR PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

PA201358 Radio Venceremos (Clandestine) in Spanish to El Salvador 2300 GMT
19 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Could so much shamelessness, so many lies and so many maneuvers be possible? The genocidal junta, following the failure of the reform plan and following the repression in order to continue exploiting the people and giving wealth to the rich and to the oligarchs who have surrendered to U.S. imperialism, is now calling for a dialogue to negotiate peace.

Duarte, Gutierrez, Garcia and Carranza want to blame the Salvadoran people for this war, as if we were the ones who like death and gun-powder. As if we were the ones who daily receive tons of war materiel from imperialism. They decree an indefinite martial law, impose curfews with permission to kill and set in motion plans such as that of Herod which consists in the extermination of the civilian population and in terror. But now, Duarte, in his latest effort to survive, is inventing a dialogue to negotiate peace. What peace? Peace for whom? Where does Duarte want peace? The democratic people of the world and the Salvadoran people know Duarte's peace. It is written with the people's blood. The Salvadoran people, after enduring the wars waged by dictatorships that have kept us ignorant and without education, hungry, unemployed, sick, without health centers and repressed to death, this heroic and abused people have decided to live in peace, but not the kind of peace that war criminals such as Duarte, Carranza, Gutierrez, Casanova and Garcia want to dump on us. We want true peace. Peace in jobs, in justice and democracy, we want peace in peace. We want the peace won by us, by 5 million Salvadorans who are now struggling to pull out of the war to which we have been forced by 50 years of oppression.

Today, when our struggle is advancing, we want more than peace, we also want to dignify our liberated people with a legitimate, democratic and revolutionary government.

CSO: 3010

ARMS SMUGGLERS SEEN AS UNPARDONABLE CRIMINALS

PA221238 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1740 GMT 21 Mar 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Contraband is a lucrative business, but when arms are involved, it is a criminal act. Those persons who become involved in any kind of contraband must later regret it. Some cases of this have come to light and it is regrettable that some citizens who were considered honest and hard-working suddenly, because of ill advice or because of uncontrolled ambition, get trapped in this terrible spiral of crime, dedicate themselves to any illegal activity and forever fall into dishonesty and the natural rejection of their fellow citizens, who just a few days before had considered them respectable and esteemed persons.

Currently, the most lucrative activities in this field are the most criminal. The contraband of arms for subversion and killing our Salvadoran brothers involves individuals who work for vile pay and who have no qualms in killing people because they are professional killers who have earned the same evil money in other countries.

Sincerely, [words indistinct] duty to observe how some fellow citizens who previously perhaps worked honestly for their own welfare and the welfare of their families are falling unpardonably into this vile business and are not thinking, as they should have, before enrolling in the ranks of smugglers who bring war materiel into our country so that violence, attacks and depression will continue.

This is what is happening and at this moment, we have fresh in our minds all the persons involved in the recent arms traffic discovered by the air force in which some bad Salvadorans dedicated to private air activities did not think as seriously as they should have and are now suffering the consequences of their ambition.

(?Those involved) in smuggling arms have no conscience. Aside from the moral guilt which should be felt by everyone who contributes to the continued killing of Salvadorans and by others who come from other places to kill us, there is the punitive aspect; that is, the punishment that must be endured by those who engage in a deadly trafficking without scruples.

Laws must be inexorable in these cases because these terrorists who have no conscience as they send so many brothers to their death here, cannot be pardoned by God or the laws or the fatherland.

CSO: 3010

SOVIET ENVOY PROTESTS 'LA PRENSA'S' USSR COVERAGE

PA211722 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 13 Mar 81 p 10

[Letter to the editor from Soviet Ambassador German Shlyapnikov; no date given]

[Text] Dear Editor: The newspaper LA PRENSA has recently carried articles referring to my statements on the domestic and foreign policy of the USSR. In this regard, I wish to state the following:

1. It is regrettable that the opinion of the Soviet ambassador, published by the newspaper BARRICADA, regarding reports by Western information agencies which grossly distort USSR policy and are regularly published in the newspaper LA PRENSA should have been used as a pretext for that paper to launch an unfriendly and completely unfounded propaganda campaign against my country.
2. No attempt to conceal the truth about the USSR can change the irrevocable facts, namely:

The USSR is a state of the workers, who have all the power and all the material and spiritual goods. It is a state in which there is no room for exploitation, where there are none of the imperialist transnational companies that are exploiting other peoples. The highest concept of true freedom and democracy consists of the absence of exploitation of man by man.

In the 63 years of people's power, the USSR has achieved enormous success in all spheres: economics, politics, education, science, culture, sports, medical assistance, and so forth. At present the USSR is a highly developed socialist state which occupies top positions in the world's most important economic social and cultural indexes.

The USSR, which made a decisive contribution to the defeat of fascism in World War II, a contribution that cost the Soviet people 20 million lives, is a dedicated and consistent fighter for the peace and security of peoples. The USSR, being a powerful state, is the main barrier that restrains the aggressive aspirations of the imperialists. The recently completed 26th CPSU Congress proposed new peaceful initiatives, once again demonstrating to the world that the USSR, with security, tranquillity and firmness, is pursuing a policy of peace, disarmament and international cooperation, in contrast to the belligerent

declarations of the well-known leaders of the imperialist countries who are stirring up war hysteria, promoting the arms race and pushing the world toward a new world war.

3. According to LA PRENSA's articles, not all its readers have an in-depth knowledge of the USSR, its history and its domestic and foreign policy. The embassy is willing to supply LA PRENSA, as well as other information media in Nicaragua, material on this subject from original sources--TASS, APN, the Soviet press, and so forth on a daily basis. It seems to me that the Nicaraguan reader, who for many years under the Somoza dictatorship was forbidden to know the truth about the USSR, would be grateful to the newspaper LA PRENSA for publishing such information. Thus, a biased "monologue" on the USSR which has been carried in the pages of that newspaper could become a friendly "dialogue" with an eye toward the development of mutual understanding between the peoples of Nicaragua and the USSR.

I would be very grateful for the publication of this letter in your newspaper.

Respectfully yours,

German Shlyapnikov, ambassador of the USSR

CSO: 3010

SALVADORAN CADET ASKS FOR ASYLUM

PA212233 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 2153 GMT 21 Mar 81

[Announcement by Foreign Ministry by spokesman Eligio Alvarez--live]

[Text] Good afternoon, listeners of Radio Sandino. This morning Salvadoran cadet (Glenn Miller Soto) who was aboard Taca flight 314 northbound going to San Salvador, stepped off the plane here. He is a 19-year-old Salvadoran cadet, a student of the Gen Gerardo Barrios Military Academy of El Salvador.

(Miller Soto) entered the military academy on 6 January 1980. On 19 March of this year he and 73 other compañeros were sent to the counterinsurgency schools that are sponsored by the U.S. Government in the Republic of Panama to take counterinsurgency training. However, today, 2 days after arriving in Panama, he was being sent back to El Salvador. On making a stopover at Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport here, he stepped off the Taca plane and asked for asylum.

Of course he has been allowed to remain in Nicaragua and his case is under study because he could not be forced to return against his will since he himself has stated that he asked for asylum because he does not agree with the military-Christian Democratic junta of El Salvador.

Next week--we don't know the date yet--there will be a news conference and this Salvadoran cadet will be presented.

CSO: 3010

STROESSNER DISCUSSES COUNTRY'S POLITICAL PROCESS, CURRENT EVENTS

Santiago QUE PASA in Spanish 19-25 Feb 81 pp 28-29, 31-34

[Interview with Paraguayan President Alfredo Stroessner Matiauda, by Lillian Calm, at his office in Asuncion; date not given]

[Text] "President Stroessner." That is the name of the modern air terminal in Asuncion (I cannot help thinking that for an international airport this is a much easier name to remember than "Comodoro Arturo Merino Benitez"). My second impression on Paraguayan soil, as we wait in an orderly line for our passports to be stamped, is the large portrait next to the entrance to the VIP room, a portrait of Gen Alfredo Stroessner in civilian clothes with his decorations and the presidential sash.

I arrive at a time when Asuncion is taking its daily siesta. The heat here is fierce (over 95 degrees), and therefore many Paraguayans begin their workday at 0630 hours (or even before) and finish around 1400 hours. In any case, I ask the porter to take my bags to the bank window, as I want to exchange dollars for guaranis, which you can now do right at the airport. I follow him. The bank is actually the woman who owns a kiosk, where she sells typically Paraguayan items, chocolates and magazines (among them the various editions available in Paraguay of CONDORITO, which seems to be one of the most popular humor publications). After exchanging my money (127 guaranis to the dollar), I take a taxi into the city.

Vote for the Colorado Party

The cab driver is a young man. On the dashboard he has a religious statue and next to it a photograph of President Stroessner. Over to one side, a red disk reads: "Let us consolidate our well-being. Choose well. Vote for the Colorado Party" (in other words, the Colorado Party's number one leader). I ask him why he has so much Stroessner propaganda in his car. His answer is right to the point:

"Because he's done a good job." He then lapses back into a silence that he breaks only when slowing down to point out some spot along our route: "Here is where they killed Somoza."

"And what do you think of the Chilean Mellia?"

The driver shrugs his shoulders. "We Paraguayans don't know what to think of him. He apparently had a lot of debts...But we have no use for terrorism. We're very peaceful people. We've lived for years amid great calm."

We arrive at the hotel door, from where I can see a building that faces the main square (this is the National Development Bank); on it, a big sign reads: "Peace, work and well-being with Stroessner."

A few minutes later I call the imposing Lopez Palace (it is also known as Lopez House, the residence last century of former President Marshal Francisco Solano Lopez). No one answers the phone at the office of the undersecretary of information and culture, with whom I have arranged for the interview in advance. I recall then that Paraguayan schedules do not match ours in Chile and I prepare to get up early and call him at 0630 hours the next morning.

Defying the heat, which seems to grow more intense by the minute at this time during the siesta, I decide to take a walk around Asuncion. I find myself on Palma Street, with its characteristic shops that sell both a wide range of imported goods and the famous manduti (which means spider web in Guarani) lace, with old trolley cars that evoke images of the early part of this century, with its modern buildings that symbolize a country in a full-fledged process of development.

At the International Bookstore I am referred to a place only a block away. There, on a street perpendicular to Palma, I come across a small bookstore (called Juan de Salazar) where I find a wide variety of works on the past, present and future of the country: "Episodes in Paraguayan History," "Madame Lynch and Solano Lopez," "A Diplomatic History of Paraguay," "Oil in Paraguay?" "President Stroessner's Place in the Nation's History." The latter is just one of the many biographies of the president. The owner of the store, an elderly man, tries to convince me to buy the four volumes with his "Messages and Speeches." He is no longer listening to me. He no longer realizes what book I want to buy. He has opened up one of the volumes and begun to declaim excerpts from some of President Stroessner's addresses.

He continues to read for some 5 minutes. The heat has become unbearable. I emphasize that I only want his biography.

"But you should also get to know his more than 25 years in government. We have a great president."

There is no doubt in my mind that Stroessner's partisans (whom I have come across in so many different places in such a short time) defend him almost with a certain degree of fanaticism. This is a constant surprise to me. But for the time being all I want to do is leave the bookstore, and in an abrupt change of subject I ask the gentleman: "What do you think of Mella?"

"He's a mercenary, just an international adventurer like so many others," he notes. "But in our country we're used to having peace."

Back on the street, I feel that I have to talk with some members of the opposition (during my short stay in Paraguay I will have an opportunity to speak with a number of them; there is a common denominator to almost all of them, however: they acknowledge that the country is at peace and they have a certain degree of respect for the person of Stroessner, although they feel that democracy in Paraguay is pro forma, not real and that some factions of the Liberal Party are run by the government itself). Other criticism is limited to certain acts, but in the end I am struck by the view voiced by one of the persons I spoke with: "Many of us do not belong to the Colorado Party and we underscore the negative, not the positive. But if look at things on balance, there can be no question that there are a lot of positive elements. This is a country at peace, with law and order and moving forward."

A Fair-Haired 19-Year Old

I wanted to know more and more about Gen Alfredo Stroessner, the man who has guided Paraguay's destiny for more than a quarter of a century and who has agreed to talk with QUE PASA. Very early the following day I will again call the palace. For now, I am reading and rereading excerpts from his biography. I focus on an episode from the Chaco War.

"And along with them the time was to come for the Boqueron 6th Infantry Regiment, one of whose platoons was commanded by a fair-haired 19-year old, Cadet Alfredo Stroessner."

This explains something that Alfredo Stroessner said many years later in 1954, when he was no longer a cadet but a

general and president of Paraguay: "I have left something of my own soldier's and combatant's heart in the hearts of my brothers who were maimed during the Chaco War."

At 0630 hours the next morning I call Lopez Palace. The undersecretary of information and culture immediately answers the phone. He asks me fondly about Chile (where he has a great many friends after serving in a diplomatic post). He then tells me (it is Wednesday) that the president is aware of my visit and that he hopes to receive me perhaps before this coming Monday. In any case, since he himself wants to speak with me beforehand, a car will be waiting for me outside the hotel within 15 minutes to take me to the palace.

A few minutes later (it must have been around 0700 hours), I am on my way to the Government Palace in the company of another Paraguayan diplomat who was also stationed in Chile. Driving through the garden, the car pulls up to the front door. No one frisks us, asks us for identification or bothers to examine my tape recorder or camera. The heat is stifling, even at that hour, but I react when the undersecretary greets me and says: "You're in luck. The president will receive you in a few minutes."

'This Is No Process'

Alfredo Stroessner Matiauda, 68 years of age, married to Eligia Mora, a father and grandfather, artillery officer, army general, president of Paraguay, is waiting for me by the door to his office. He greets me cordially, talks to me about Chile and makes ready to answer my questions (no tape recorder, though). There is only one question that he would rather sidestep, having to do with relations between his country and Argentina.

[Question] How would you describe the current political process in Paraguay?

Alfredo Stroessner: It's not a process. Our political actions are wideranging and based on safeguarding the peace, administering justice prudently, maintaining freedom within law and order, adhering unconditionally to the constitution and our laws and thoroughly implementing the government's programs and plans, which are based on the ideals of the Colorado Party, the most powerful democratic political group in Paraguay, to which I am honored to belong. If I had to give you a definition, I would say that Paraguay has a democratic government in which Paraguayan leaders guide the country with a Paraguayan approach, pursuing Paraguayan policies with Paraguayan sensitivity.

[Question] Do you feel that Paraguay is a democracy? In your judgment, on what is your country's democracy based? What guarantees does the opposition have?

Alfredo Stroessner: Paraguay is a democracy, an authentic democracy that also has the virtue of being what it is without communists or communism. Herein lies its authenticity, and this is the reason for its vigor. Ours is not a "democratic process," because accepting that approach would also mean accepting the temporary nature of our situation, which is irreversible. If necessary, our democracy will be refined, in accordance with the experience we gain in pursuing the practices that make my country a lauded example of an orderly, independent nation free of ties to so-called international ideological movements.

The basis and essence of our democracy are to be found in the people and their supreme determination to choose their leaders in legitimate, free elections that are open to all legally organized political parties recognized by the Central Electoral Board, which is the highest monitoring authority in this area under the Election Law. All parties enjoy the wideranging guarantees provided by the National Constitution, which my government abides by faithfully.

[Question] What do you feel is the biggest problem facing your government today?

Alfredo Stroessner: All of the problems that could possibly hamper or delay our progress are major ones, regardless of how small they seem. I have always maintained that difficulties are there to be surmounted, and therefore there is no scale of values. These are difficulties or problems, period. As such, as soon as they are brought up, we analyze and resolve them and continue our march towards our great national objectives.

[Question] What has been your biggest accomplishment?

Alfredo Stroessner: Peace. The vital, dynamic, calming peace that enables the nation to proceed securely towards the magnificent destiny that in fact and by right belongs to it. This peace is a sign of our freedom and a guarantee for the well-being of our homeland. Often when I reflect on the path that we have traversed, I recall the words of His Holiness Paul VI, making his plea as Christ's vicar: "Yes to peace, no to violence." And I come to the conclusion that the Paraguayan people are privileged to be among the most faithful agents and champions of the pontiff's philosophy, and we are privileged and honored to be their leaders.

Hired Thugs

[Question] What specific details have been uncovered in connection with the assassination of Somoza? What political repercussions has his slaying had on Paraguay?

Alfredo Stroessner: We know that the vile assassins who perpetrated this most contemptible crime on Paraguayan soil and took the life of the president of the Republic of Nicaragua, Gen Anastasio Somoza Debayle, and the people with him, were hired thugs of international communism and that sooner or later those morally and materially responsible for his slaying will receive the punishment they deserve.

It has reinforced the conviction of the upright citizens of the republic that the peace of which I have spoken to you is priceless and that it must be upheld and safeguarded no matter what the cost. Moreover, I hope that this shameful episode, which ought to mortify those who celebrated or said they celebrated what they called his "execution," will make the countries of the Americas aware of the tremendous danger that their free institutions are in because of the threat posed by the savagery unleashed by the enemies of freedom.

[Question] What is your policy towards subversion or terrorism?

Alfredo Stroessner: We have only one policy: unwavering rejection, no matter what its roots or goals. As long as I am president of the Republic of Paraguay, the struggle against terrorism and subversion will be waged to its ultimate consequences. The Colorado Party, the nation's Armed Forces and even the government's opponents feel this way. In other words, I am talking about the individuals who can legitimately say that they represent and act on behalf of the honorable people of Paraguay.

(The conversation then turns to foreign policy, which in Paraguay has been based on three elements, among others: respect for treaties, the principle of non-intervention and President Stroessner's resolute anticomunism. One of his colleagues described him as "the biggest anticomunist that mankind has ever given birth to.")

[Question] What effect do you think Ronald Reagan's election as president of the United States could have on Paraguay and the rest of Latin America?

Alfredo Stroessner: I would rather make a prediction: that President Ronald Reagan will be able to perceive who among us, as countries and individuals, are the true, loyal and natural friends of the United States of America and that he will act accordingly. The results will be visible right away, and the opinions will be highly positive.

[Question] What is your view of the Carter administration?

Alfredo Stroessner: It is not up to me to voice an opinion. That is the purview of the American people, who are the final judge of their government leaders and who hand down their verdict in the ways that they deem most timely.

[Question] How do you view the future of the Andean Pact?

Alfredo Stroessner: The future of the Andean Pact will be determined by time, world political developments, the course of events. Thus, I feel that any forecast would be on shaky ground, either because of hastiness or because of an erroneous assessment of the facts. Let time do its work and you'll have the answer to your question.

[Question] How do you view the current inter-American system? Do you think that the principle of nonintervention is in the midst of a crisis?

Alfredo Stroessner: This is not the time for judgments. This is the time for making decisions so that together we can all bolster the inter-American system to the maximum, because the fate of our continent is at stake. As far as the principle of nonintervention is concerned, Paraguay, its people and its government have never compromised (and never will compromise) in their thoroughgoing defense of this principle, which is basic to maintaining a country's independence and sovereignty unimpaired.

Understanding the Country's Landlocked Status

[Question] How do you explain that Paraguay, although it is a landlocked country, does not have the development and instability problems affecting Bolivia?

Alfredo Stroessner: I would rather not make any comparisons in answering your question. I would say that in the first place the Paraguayan people know what they want and that we, their leaders, devote all of our efforts to making their desires come true. There is a harmonious coupling of goals and efforts between the people and the government, and our Armed Forces, which are agents of national well-being, progress and security, are involved too. Under these circumstances, the socioeconomic and political phenomena that are part and parcel of every growing nation cease to exert a negative influence on the life of a country, and this is the case in Paraguay.

[Question] What about the country's landlocked status?

Alfredo Stroessner: In this regard, I am pleased to state that although we are geographically landlocked, from an objective standpoint we have overcome this handicap with courage, with effort, with determination and with the ongoing understanding of our friends, one of whom is Chile, which granted Paraguay a free zone and a free port warehouse several years ago.

[Question] What historical importance do you attach to the agreements you have reached with Brazil and Argentina in connection with your border problems? Do you think that these are permanent settlements?

Alfredo Stroessner: I take it that you are referring to the treaties between the Republic of Paraguay, the Federative Republic of Brazil and the Argentine Republic in relation to Itaipu and Yacyreta or Corpus, respectively. These international instruments, which are the fruit of the friendship, understanding and spirit of integration among our countries, peoples and governments, are the finest expression of the Latin Americanist direction of our foreign policy.

[Question] Retired Adm Isaac Rojas (who is known for his attacks on Chile) was arrested in Argentina for attacking the Paraguayan Government. What is your opinion in this regard? Do you think that Admiral Rojas has any influence or importance?

President Stroessner settles into his seat before self-confidently answering my question: "There are all kinds in God's flock."

For a few minutes I look closely at this formal, shall we say, reserved man impeccably clad in blue. He is wearing a red tie and a badge on his lapel, and a white handkerchief pokes out of one of his pockets. Stocky, he looks older in person than photographs of him suggest. He does not speak too loudly but does discuss certain topics animatedly, whereas his voice seems to trail off on others.

[Question] What do you think of the political process in Chile?

Alfredo Stroessner: Every free people, and that is what the Chilean people are, has the duty and the right to choose its own destiny, and therefore its decision merits respect, the highest respect. After the painful experience that your country had as a victim of Allende's communist experiment, Chileans have reacted firmly, calmly and decisively. The Chilean Armed Forces and their strong commander in chief, Army Gen Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, your illustrious president and my good friend, were the ones who put these feelings into practice. I think that Chile is back on the path of its history and is marching with a sure step towards its great destiny.

President Pinochet is a good friend, and there is no question that he saved not only Chile but countries like ours as well, which would have suffered very dire consequences.

[Question] Do you have many Chilean friends?

Stroessner replies emphatically: "A great many, and all of them are very good friends. I'm going to mention just two of the many Chileans whom I have had the pleasure of knowing and dealing with. One of them is no longer with us; the other fortunately is. Gen Carlos Ibáñez del Campo, my noble and never-to-be-forgotten friend, was born on 3 November 1877. I was born on 3 November 35 years later. When he was a general, I was a cadet. Both of us were presidents... There are many things that I remember and value highly about him. The other one? Dr Conrado Ríos Gallardo, a great Paraguayanist too and whom I always recall fondly.

[Question] At what points in your life have you felt closest to Chile?

Alfredo Stroessner: Chile is a country that is very dear to the feelings of Paraguayans. I always feel a fondness for Chile, regardless of situations or episodes in which I have been personally involved.

[Question] Is it true that your family has major investments in joint Paraguayan-Chilean tourism enterprises?

Alfredo Stroessner: I don't know. I don't know about such investments by my family. I can't be informed about everything.

[Question] What do you think of the Chilean Mella?

Alfredo Stroessner: This has made a big splash in the papers. I think there is no question but that he is involved. In speaking about him, I would rather not even allude to his being a Chilean.

I then ask him some personal questions. He tells me of his inclination for history and geopolitics. "One must always get to know men and countries." He asserts that he is interested in everything artistic. "When my duties of state allow me to, I gladly attend artistic events, especially ones that have to do with my country's traditions and customs."

[Question] How would you describe President Stroessner as a man, as a military officer and as a government leader?

Alfredo Stroessner: As a good Paraguayan who loves his country and his people deeply. A soldier whose sword is always ready to serve his nation. A president who pursues Paraguayan policies for Paraguayans and whose only concern is the happiness and well-being of all the inhabitants of the republic.

"I'm Not Here Because I Want To Be..."

[Question] To what do you think you owe your authority over your fellow citizens?

Alfredo Stroessner: I have said more than once that I am the person who I am not because of my actions but because of the mistakes of others. I'm doing the right thing in almost all areas. I have had a brilliant opportunity to excel where others have done nothing but harm the country. Remember that from 1904 to 1940 the country had 21 presidents...I'm not here because I want to be but because the people want me to be.

[Question] Have you thought about a successor?

Alfredo Stroessner: It's the people, not me, who have to decide that. I have never campaigned to stay in office. I only want to leave successfully through the door I came in.

[Question] Some of your ministers have been with you for 25 years. Your newest colleagues have been with you for at least 5 years. What is the reason for this?

Alfredo Stroessner: I have always preferred for ministers to develop and mature. The task of governing is not easy, and you have to improve. And they are doing their work. The other choice is to change for change's sake, and later you have to change what you've changed. There is a saying that a new broom always sweeps best, but we don't know how it is going to sweep. Maybe the old ones sweep much better than the new ones.

[Question] What would you like history to say about President Stroessner?

Alfredo Stroessner: That he was a good Paraguayan.

General Stroessner has to chair a cabinet meeting in just a few minutes. The undersecretary of information and culture signals to me, reminding me that it is getting late. The president allows his picture to be taken, autographs one of the books about him for me and then walks me to the door. What were his final words before saying good-by? "The communists usually refer to our governments as dictatorships, but we are a democracy."

I leave the palace and begin walking. A few meters away is the port, and over there some shantytowns and further on, modern buildings with exclusive boutiques. These are the contrasts of Paraguay. And dozens of children are playing in a square around a tank that was captured from the Bolivian Army during the war.

My trip to Asuncion concludes a few hours later. I arrive at President Stroessner Airport and before boarding my plane, as the loudspeakers announce the departure of my flight, I cannot fail to stop and look (and photograph) the enormous portrait of Alfredo Stroessner, president of Paraguay, that dominates the air terminal building.

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FOREIGN TRADE FIGURES FOR 1980, 1981 PROJECTIONS PUBLISHED

Foreign Trade for 1980

Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 21 Feb 81 Weekend Supplement p 7

[Text] According to the information published by the Central Bank of Uruguay, total imports as of November 1980 amounted to \$1.453 billion, while exports for the same period generated \$904 million in foreign exchange. This results in an unfavorable 1980 current trade balance of \$549 million.

Taking into account the monthly evolution of figures and the reported volumes of trade, the total 1980 deficit at year-end is expected to approach the order of \$600 million.

This imbalance has been building up with varying intensity over the last few years, as can be seen from the accompanying charts and graph. While imports over the past 5 years grew at an annual rate of almost 22 percent, exports grew at practically half their previous rate (12.6 percent). The primary factor in the growth of imports was the rise in oil prices since 1974. The nation's growth in level of activity and investments during the 1976-1980 period must be considered secondary.

With regard to exports, those of a nontraditional nature grew, over the 5-year period, at an average annual rate practically double that of those in the traditional categories (15.6 percent versus 8.6 percent).

As regards traditional exports, although the volumes of meat and wool exported were greater than in 1979, they were not as great as they could have been, based on domestic availabilities. In the case of wool, exports totaled roughly a little more than 60,000 tons, which is very close to the product of an annual harvest, but it must be recalled that there were more than 15,000 unsold tons left over from 1979. Meat exports in 1980 [as published] may reach a total of 105-110,000 tons carcass-dressed and ready for the butcher, a meager sum if we consider the number of ranches we have in this country and the fact that domestic consumption totals around 200,000 tons annually. This category was undoubtedly affected directly by the world oil-price rise, which produced changes in demand on the part of foreign consumers and in the European Common Market's stockpiling policy.

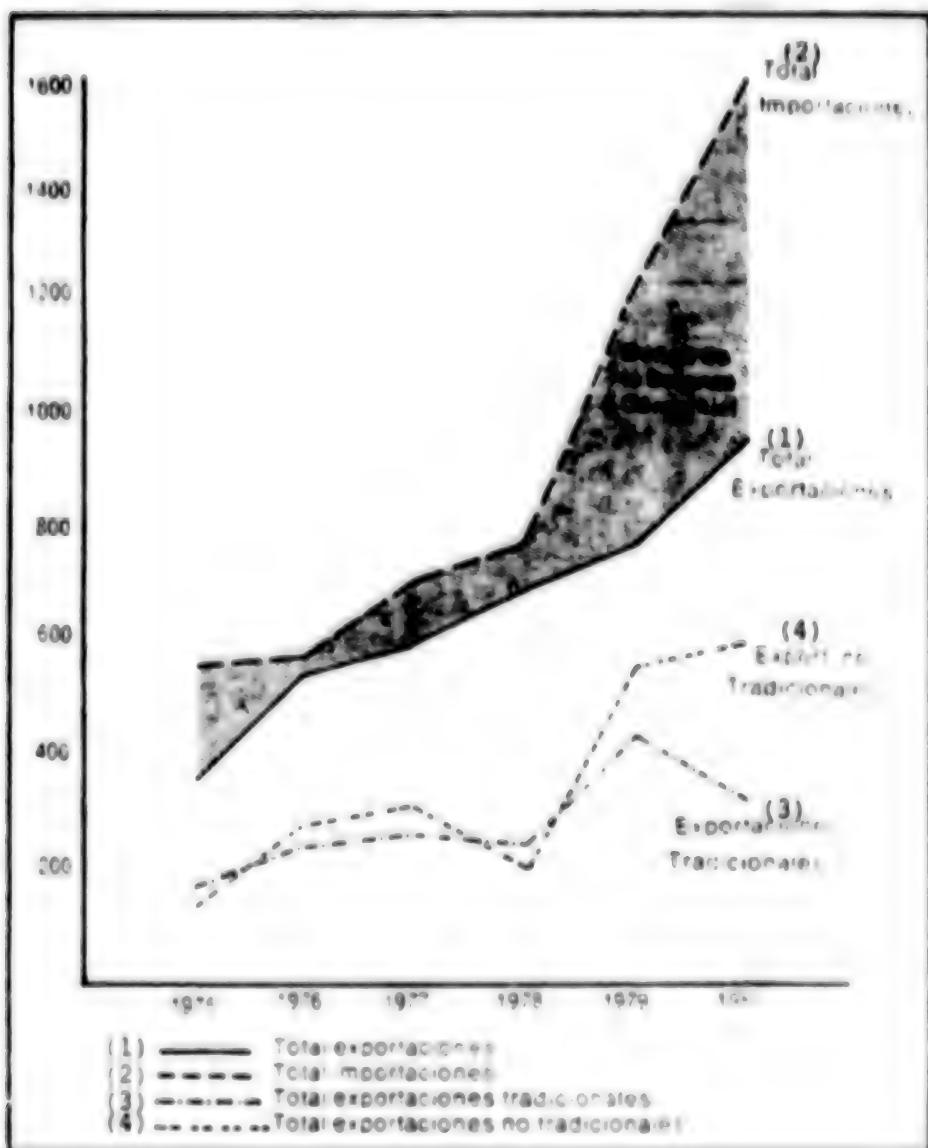
Foreign Trade
(statistics as of November)

A. General Figures
(in \$ million)

	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>Nominal Growth Rate</u>
I. Total exports	707.6	904.4	27.8
a) Traditional exports	205.7	350.1	70.1
b) Nontraditional exports	501.8	554.3	10.5
Total registered exports		675.9	
II. Total imports	1,088.0	1,453.3	33.6
Total registered imports		1,636.9	
III. Trade balance (I - II)	-380.4	-582.9	44.3

Uruguay's Foreign Trade
(in \$ million)

	<u>Exports</u>		<u>Imports</u>		<u>Deficit</u>
	<u>Traditionals</u>	<u>Non- traditionals</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
1975	194.1	189.3	383.9	556.5	-172.6
1976	252.7	293.7	546.4	587.1	-40.7
1977	261.2	346.3	607.5	729.9	-122.4
1978	248.6	437.4	686.0	774.3	-88.3
1979	222.7	565.4	788.1	1,230.8	-442.7
1980					
—					
To November 1980	350.1	554.3	904.4	1,453.3	-548.9
Estimate for year	3,420	605.0	987.0	1,585.0	-608.0
Average annual growth rate for 5-year period 1976-1980 (percent)	-6	15.6	12.6	22.0	



Key:

1. Total exports
2. Total imports
3. Total traditional exports
4. Total nontraditional exports

A revealing comparison, for a more exact evaluation of the oil price-rise impact, is given by the fact that total meat and wool exports during the first 11 months of 1980 covered barely three-fourths of the cost of our oil and oil products imports, which currently represent one third of our total imports and which required a greater outpayment of foreign exchange during the year, accounting in large measure for the increased deficit in our trade balance.

Fishing, for its part, has continued its export uptrend, although it is still far from having reached its planned goals. In any case, its exports totaled upward of \$40 million, exceeding the 1979 total by some 30 percent. Worthy of special mention is the increase in fish meal exports. The outlook is good for some lesser categories; this is the case in the dairy industry, owing to the reduction in subsidies that has taken place in the European Common Market and to the possible renegotiation of the LAFTA agreements.

Impacting the 1980 deficit, on the one hand, is the mentioned oil-price rise, which, in nominal terms, drove up imports in this category by \$170 million over 1979, representing, in nominal terms, an increase of over 90 percent. On the other hand, imports of semifinished goods increased, in physical terms, as did those of capital assets to keep step with the growth in the level of activity, which was of the order of 5 percent for the year.

In real terms, taking into account the rise in foreign trade price indexes for the first half of 1980 over the first half of 1979, according to the official figures (40 percent), it can be estimated that imports actually decreased by almost 8 percent. Exports, for their part and over the same period, showed a price rise of 23 percent, resulting in a physical volume increase of 2.0 percent. Obviously, assuming this represents the actual behavior, there was a quite significant loss by way of prices involved in the interchange.

Exports of the nontraditional type especially showed a rather modest performance. If we consider that in nominal terms they increased only slightly more than 10 percent, and that international prices must clearly have exceeded this rate, we must conclude that exports of this type must have shrunk.

A number of categories, such as leather (shoes and leather products), showed increases in nominal terms, because of smaller volumes exported, owing to difficulties experienced in selling in the traditional foreign buyer markets, resulting in turn from the competition being waged by other countries, such as Italy, Spain and Brazil, who are able to sell at lower prices by way of government subsidies to their products. Something similar occurred also with respect to some textile-wear categories, especially in the U.S. and Canadian markets.

A somewhat similar condition took place with regard to some types of beverages, such as beer, except that there are other factors that limit trade with Brazil (especially, price problems and protective barriers). There is some optimism, however, with regard to the Argentine market.

A downturn in the import growth rate, in terms of volume, may be expected to set in, owing to a saturation in some categories, especially consumer goods. Obviously, it is difficult to predict total values for 1981, because of the strong influence exerted by oil prices directly on oil imports and indirectly on the other categories.

Projections for 1981

Montevideo LA MANANA in Spanish 14 Feb 81 p 7

[Report on interview with Director General of Foreign Trade Santiago Antuna; date and place not given]

[Text] The director general of foreign trade estimated yesterday that Uruguayan exports this year could greatly exceed \$1.1 billion, provided no new protective barriers or inflationary problems arise in other nations directly affecting our foreign sales. In statements to the press, Mr Santiago Antuna confirmed a previous report by LA MANANA that the opening of a new foreign trade office in Mexico is being contemplated, and expressed optimism with regard to the sale of Uruguayan products in that market, especially dairy products. He spoke also of the program of trade missions that is now under way under our foreign trade policy and said that Uruguayan industrialists are now in a position to penetrate the European Common Market.

Asked, on principle, about the Mexican mission that is now in Uruguay, Mr Antuna replied:

"The Mexican mission consists of people from the public sector and the private sector. In a way, it is a response to a visit made there by a trade mission from Uruguay toward the end of last year. The contacts made by our mission were very useful. It also had the opportunity of visiting various establishments and was surprised to see the levels that have been attained there. The Mexicans have a very large shortage of dairy products, exacerbated, above all, by the phenomenal growth of the Mexican population; consequently, I think it is a market for those products, in which Uruguay stands a good chance. I have previously said that, together with the minister, we are studying the possibility of opening a trade office there, which would help us penetrate that high-potential market and enable us to sell some Uruguayan products there despite the distance."

[Question] How are negotiations with Brazil proceeding?

[Answer] Negotiations with Brazil are not proceeding at the protocolary level. All negotiations are being analyzed at the ALADI [Latin American Integration Association] level. I do not believe we can accomplish it immediately, but we are nevertheless insisting on renewing the dialog, because some of the measures the Brazilian Government has instituted with regard to foreign trade have clearly dissuaded, in a way, the flow of exports toward that country. These measures are obviously not meant to be discriminatory against Uruguay; they are prompted by the economic situation in Brazil. But they do raise the prices of our exports and could consequently make us noncompetitive internationally as well as domestically.

[Question] With regard to the search for new markets, what policy is being pursued?

[Answer] As you know, the Directorate has a program of trade missions made up of Uruguayan industrialists, and this year we will be carrying out a number of studies and missions, mainly in the fishing, meat, and handicrafts sectors. In the latter case, even though it is not a very large one from the standpoint of bringing in foreign exchange, it is one that is growing rapidly and that, because of its manual nature, employs a large number of artisans; it has shown a highly surprising multiplicative trend, in that, from an insignificant, almost nonexistent, level of production, it has now risen to a level exceeding millions of dollars.

[Question] What level will our foreign sales reach this year?

[Answer] Some time ago, we made a projection for 1981, based on the trend shown by exports over the past 3 or 4 years. When we made it, conditions were not as difficult as they are now in some of Uruguay's traditional markets; but we expect that, getting around these difficulties, our sales will greatly exceed \$1.1 billion this year. I trust that no protectionist measures or inflationary problems will arise in other nations such as will hinder our competitiveness. If these obstacles are not placed in our way, I believe our sales will reach that figure.

Higher January Meat Exports

Montevideo LA MANANA in Spanish 14 Feb 81 p 17

[Text] January exports of meats and meat products this year tripled, in terms of tonnage, those of January 1980.

According to the figures published by INAC [National Meat Institute], Uruguayan exports of meats, pressed meat products, offal and meat by-products in January 1981 totaled 16,412 tons, whereas in January 1980 they totaled only 5,145 tons.

If we consider only beef cattle, the difference is even greater, since, in January 1980, 1,115 tons were shipped abroad as against 11,987 tons in January 1981.

Slaughtering

The large volume of sheep slaughtered during the period 1-7 of the current month was again the most outstanding aspect of our country's slaughter activity.

According to INAC Information Bulletin 106, export refrigeration facilities and slaughterhouses approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fishing received, during that period, 30,017 cattle, 68,696 sheep, and 3,105 hogs.

Beef cattle and sheep slaughtered during that period totaled 98,723 heads, which is higher than the total for the period 1-9 February 1980 when 45,177 heads of beef and sheep, taken together, were slaughtered.

Taken separately, the slaughter rates of both these categories was higher this year than during the corresponding period in 1980: 30,027 versus 28,699 heads of beef, and 68,696 versus 16,478 heads of sheep.

Figures According to Classification

Between 1 and 7 February 1981, refrigeration facilities slaughtered 20,457 heads of beef and the slaughterhouses approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fishing 9,570 heads, representing 68.1 percent and 31.9 percent respectively of the total beef cattle slaughtered.

By classification: 52.2 percent of the beef cattle were young bulls, 37.5 percent were cows, 7.3 percent were calves, and 2.7 percent were oxen and bulls.

Of the mentioned 68,696 heads of sheep, 98.8 percent were slaughtered by the export refrigeration facilities and 1.2 percent by the slaughterhouses approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fishing.

By classification: 55.9 percent of this category were geldings, 37.9 percent were lambs, 6.1 percent were yearlings, and 0.1 percent were ewes.

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FOREIGN MINISTER ZAMBRANO'S 'HEMISPHERIC STRATEGY' DISCUSSED

Caracas EL DIARIO DE CARACAS in Spanish 15 Feb 81 p 5

[Article by Manuel Felipe Sierra: "Beyond the Andes"]

[Text] Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco's visits to Canada, Brazil and Argentina in less than 2 weeks show that Venezuelan diplomacy is seeking new areas of rapprochement and agreements. What analysts have defined as a "hemispheric strategy" is due to the need to reestablish Venezuelan relations in terms of possible and apparently inevitable changes in the conduct of Ronald Reagan's administration.

This is perfectly natural. A similar situation occurred during the government of Carlos Andres Perez. Gerald Ford's interim administration continued a fierce anti-OPEC policy which was expressed in periodic epistolary reproaches of Venezuela for being an important factor in the organization. The advent of Jimmy Carter in 1977 ushered in a significant change. The new chief executive--with his human rights policy--picked Venezuelan democracy as his main dialog partner in the area. In general, the foreign policy of Perez did not change appreciably, but it did undergo a necessary change to keep pace with U.S. proposals.

With the ascent of Ronald Reagan--whose election platform was absolutely clear and unambiguous as to its goals--that simple necessity now requires a reestablishment of Venezuelan diplomatic action.

However, in the present situation there are other factors contributing to the shift which is becoming apparent in foreign policy. The pivotal point of Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco's policy--and which was intended to emphasize a shade of difference in relation to previous procedure--consisted of strengthening the political role of the Andean Pact. At a certain time--May 1979--conditions were favorable for a policy of that kind. Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador were going through a process of transition toward democratic methods. The plan worked as long as hopes of a return to democracy remained divided in the Andean region. The Andean Pact's intervention in the Nicaraguan crisis (July 1979) and in the situation which occurred in the Peruvian Embassy in Havana (April 1980) were highlights of the Cartagena Agreement.

Today the situation is different. Bolivia suffered a total setback with Gen Luis Garcia Meza's coup (July 1980) and Peru raised serious objections to the pact's operating procedure, which weakened the political actions of the group of countries

to a disturbing degree. In the area of Central America and the Caribbean--the other principal concern of Christian Democratic diplomacy--there have been direct results. El Salvador's case has not produced a positive response at the continental level, as Brazilian Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro recalled yesterday in the sharp language of Itamaraty. Does Venezuelan diplomacy have to go that far? Events advise new efforts and attempts to find a solution. In this sense, there is a reaccommodation, an obvious shift which has not been and will not be announced, in accordance with formal protocol. In diplomacy, actions also speak louder than words.

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